

سكنا من الأهل

Pretoria ponders Dutch demand

PRETORIA (R) — South Africa was Wednesday considering how to resolve a diplomatic row over a Dutch detainee who made an abortive bid for sanctuary in The Netherlands embassy after The Hague set a 48-hour deadline for his return. The South African Foreign Ministry said Pretoria and The Hague were in contact over Klaas de Jonge but further public statements would hamper a solution. Official sources said the government was still considering ways to resolve the crisis. The Netherlands said Tuesday that it would recall Ambassador Hugo Carsten for consultations unless Mr. De Jonge was returned to its Pretoria embassy by Thursday morning. The row erupted last week when The Netherlands said armed police charged into its embassy in violation of principles of diplomatic immunity to recapture Mr. De Jonge, a 47-year-old history teacher held by the South Africans on suspicion of "terrorism".

Jordan Times

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Mubarak in Ethiopia for OAU summit

ADDIS ABABA (AP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak arrived here Wednesday for his first ever organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit and for private discussions on Sudan. Mr. Mubarak, who arrived aboard his presidential jet, was greeted by Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam. The two leaders embraced, then walked together along a red carpet to a reviewing stand. They chatted privately but neither made a statement. The Egyptian president was one of dozens of African leaders to fly into the Ethiopian capital for Thursday's opening of the 21st OAU summit. Scores of police and soldiers provided a ring of security around the airport apron for the arriving heads of state. But security for Mr. Mubarak's arrival was, by far, the most stringent and largest. Mr. Mubarak's trip to Addis Ababa is his first to black Africa since March 1984, when he attended the funeral of Guinean President Ahmad Sekou Toure in Conakry.

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Israeli emigration on the increase

AMMAN (Petra) — The percentage of emigrating Israelis has increased by 60 per cent in the first three months of 1985 compared to the same period of 1984, according to Minister of Settlement and Immigration Jacob Tsour. Mr. Tsour said that 1985 figure was 1,670 while in 1984 the figure was 1,219. The Israeli daily Davar said that the 1985 figure represented those who got the authorities' approval to change nationality, while thousands who submitted similar applications were either denied or still awaiting approval.

Bomb explodes in Haifa

TEL AVIV (R) — A small bomb exploded Wednesday outside the office building of Zim, Israel's largest shipping concern, in the centre of Haifa, police said. A police spokesman said no one was injured in the explosion, the fourth in recent weeks in Haifa. The last explosion was a week ago outside the courthouse in Haifa. No one was injured.

Vatican concerned over Hospice closure

TUNIS (Petra) — The Vatican has contacted the Arab League General Secretariat and expressed concern over the Hospice Hospital in Jerusalem which has been ordered to close down by the Israeli occupation authorities. The Vatican was anxious to ensure that the hospital continues its medical services to the people living in the occupied territories, a message sent the Arab League said (see editorial comment on page 4).

Mitterrand pledges funds for 'Eureka'

PARIS (R) — French President Francois Mitterrand Wednesday pledged one billion francs (\$115 million) for Western Europe's proposed "Eureka" joint technology project next year. "In 1986, the first year of the project, I can say France will make available one billion francs for Eureka," he told ministers from 17 countries attending a conference to launch the project.

Gandhi says U.S. withholding information

NEW DELHI (AP) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has accused the United States of withholding information on activities of U.S.-based Sikh terrorists and training camps. "We feel... there is something they are not telling us," Mr. Gandhi said in an interview published Wednesday by the Bombay weekly, Blitz.

Tindemans ends visit to Syria

DAMASCUS (AP) — Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans left Damascus Wednesday ending a two-day official visit during which he held talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad. He was seen off at the airport by his Syrian counterpart Farouk Al Shara'a. He told reporters at the airport that his talks with Mr. Shara'a were "useful, during which we exchanged points of view in the Middle East and Lebanon."

Abe leaves after talks with Aziz and Masri

Japanese minister describes Amman meetings as highly fruitful, supports peace efforts

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency despatches

AMMAN — Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe held talks on the Gulf war Wednesday with his counterparts from Jordan and Iraq before leaving for Syria after a three-day visit during which he was received by His Highness Prince Abdullah, the Regent, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, and senior Jordanian officials and held a meeting with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri told reporters he and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz had a "very useful" exchange of views on the 57-month-old Iran-Iraq war during a meeting in Mr. Abe's hotel suite.

Mr. Aziz, who arrived here early Wednesday for the meeting, had nothing specific to report but exchanged views with Mr. Abe, a powerful Japanese leader who held talks with Iranian Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani in Tokyo earlier this month. According to reports after the Iranian speaker's visit to Tokyo, it had appeared that Iran was willing to a truce in the war in line with proposals that Mr. Abe made last year. Mr. Abe's proposals called for safe navigation in the Gulf and safe use of ports and harbours and a ban on the use of chemical weapons in the war.

(Continued on page 3)

Iraqis crush new Iranian attack on northern warfront

Regent sends good wishes to Iraqi leader

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said Wednesday it had crushed a new Iranian attack in the northern mountains of Kurdistan, inflicting heavy casualties and losses of equipment.

An Iraqi military spokesman said "the situation is now stable and in the interest of the Iraqi troops."

There has been heavy fighting on the northern tip of the 1,180-kilometre Iran-Iraq war front since Sunday night, which diplomats say is part of a big new Iranian offensive.

The military spokesman said the battle raged for 24 hours in Seidkan Valley, Iraq's 33rd Division, one infantry and two commando brigades took part in the fighting, he added.

The Seidkan area is 20 kilometres inside the Iraqi border and 400 kilometres northeast of Baghdad, near where the Iranian, Iraqi and Turkish borders meet.

In Iran's first attack in the area on Monday, Iraq said it killed 992 Iranians and wounded thousands in a 15-hour battle, crushing an Iranian attack from three axes. It was the first major Iranian

against Iranian troop concentrations over the past few days. Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, in a speech Tuesday night to celebrate Iraq's 17th national day and his sixth anniversary as president, said Iraq was ready for a new Iranian attack.

"They are now planning some action in the north," I say, in the name of all the fighters at the highest mountain peak there, that the Iraqis who crushed their yellow waves are able to confront their plans and massed troops anywhere," he said.

There were mass national day marches Wednesday in Baghdad and provincial capitals, with brightly coloured street placards hailing President Hussein's leadership and Iraq's Gulf war successes.

The governors of Kurdistan's three border provinces — Arbil, Dahuk and Sulaymaniyah — inaugurated a number of costly projects including hospitals, schools, roads and summer resorts.

Many Iraqi projects traditionally are inaugurated on national day.

Karami: Lebanese strife is nearing end

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Prime Minister Rashid Karami said Wednesday Lebanon's decade-old civil war is nearing the end after a Syrian-sponsored peace plan for west Beirut moved into a second day without snags.

Riot police, charged with restoring law and order to west Beirut and its U.S.-boycotted airport have announced that hostilities in the Muslim-dominated half of the capital have decreased. Previously, it was plagued by robberies, kidnappings and fighting between rival militias.

Mr. Karami criticised U.S. sanctions against the country's only airport, saying the measures were "unjust."

"The world's largest power is challenging the smallest country in the world," said Mr. Karami. "We cannot accept such unjust retaliation to a hijack in which Lebanon was involved only on humanitarian grounds."

He was referring to the June 14 hijacking of a Trans World Airlines plane with 153 people aboard while on a flight from Athens to Rome. The drama ended 17 days later in Beirut with the release of the last 39 American hostages by militants.

He said that the general situation in Lebanon "indicates that we are nearing the end of suffering."

The prime minister's remarks, broadcast by the state radio, followed a meeting at his office with a coordination committee established to supervise the security plan in west Beirut.

Committee sources quoted Defence Minister Adel Ossseiran as saying "all parties concerned are cooperating" in carrying out the Syrian-backed plan for ending anarchy in west Beirut.

The new measures gave residents in the area, torn by recent inter-militia fighting, their quietest night in months after militia closed down all but head offices when the plan took effect Tuesday.

Security sources, however, said sporadic exchanges of fire with rocket-propelled grenades and machine-guns kept up tension on the "green line" dividing west and mainly Christian east Beirut. The first stage of the plan does not include the battlefield.

Mr. Ossseiran said in a statement the committee had "decided to use security forces to seize every visible weapon" and would study ways of disarming arms, currently bought and sold without restriction. He did not say when arms would be collected.

Committee sources said Beirut municipality workers and 100 boy scouts were to begin removing militia posters plastered on walls throughout west Beirut beginning Thursday, and that barricades would also be removed.

There was no sign of uniformed militia on the streets and militia branch offices have been shut or turned into what militiamen say are social service centres.

Mr. Ossseiran said the committee, which includes five Syrian observers, had visited Beirut airport to check on steps to tighten security there.

Syria is carefully supervising enforcement of the west Beirut measures, which are being carried out under a Damascus agreement reached between Muslim leaders last week to reunify their ranks as a step towards reviving peace talks with Lebanon's Christians.

Syrian media urge renewed peace efforts, page 2



His Highness Prince Abdullah bin Al Hussein, the Regent, Wednesday receives from special Moroccan envoy Ahmad Othman a message from Morocco's King Hassan II to His Majesty King Hussein (Petra photo).

Jordan, PLO receive invitations for summit

Masri says Jordan does not wish to submit Feb. 11 accord for discussions

AMMAN (I.T.) — A special Moroccan envoy left Amman Wednesday after delivering invitations from King Hassan II of Morocco to Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to attend an extraordinary Arab summit to be held in Casablanca on July 29 as Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri said Jordan does not wish to submit the Feb. 11 Jordan-PLO accord to the proposed summit.

The Moroccan invitation to His Majesty King Hussein was delivered to His Highness Prince Abdullah bin Al Hussein, the Regent, by Moroccan Parliament Speaker Ahmad Othman, in a meeting attended by Lower House of Parliament Speaker Akaf Al Fayez, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Jassem and Moroccan Ambassador to Jordan Abdul Latif Laraki.

Mr. Othman, who arrived in Amman Tuesday, was received by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai shortly after his arrival. Mr. Rifai conveyed to the Moroccan envoy Jordan's willingness to attend the summit, proposed by King Hassan to discuss the Palestinian problem.

Mr. Othman met PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat late Tuesday and delivered to him the Moroccan invitation.

During his meeting with the

Moroccan envoy, Prince Abdullah reiterated Jordan's support for the proposed summit, "which will discuss dangers that confront the Arab World and means to strengthen the Arab stand and unity," the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

Mr. Arafat told reporters before meeting the Moroccan envoy that so far 17 Arab League members had agreed to meet on July 29, Libya, South Yemen and Algeria have expressed reservations and Arab diplomats told the Jordan Times Tuesday that Syria had already informed the Arab League that it would not attend the conference.

King Hassan's proposal to convene an extraordinary summit came in the wake of attacks on Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut by militiamen of the Lebanese Shi'ite Amal movement and elements of the army. The attacks, which culminated in a fierce siege of the camps after Palestinian defenders put up stiff resistance, subsided after a Syrian-brokered truce. Lebanon has opposed the summit contending that the attacks on the camps were an internal affair.

According to King Hassan's proposal, the sole focus of the proposed summit will be the Palestinian problem and dev-

elopments in the conflict since the last Arab summit, held in Fez, Morocco, in 1982.

Mr. Masri said Wednesday Jordan does not wish to submit to the conference the Feb. 11 Jordan-PLO accord on a joint political strategy towards a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

"We are not very much keen on bringing the accord before the summit," Mr. Masri told reporters. "It is a bilateral agreement between us and PLO and both of us are happy about it."

Mr. Masri made his comments shortly before he was due to meet Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz to discuss the convening of the proposed summit.

Mr. Aziz, here on an overnight visit, said on arrival Iraq believed an Arab summit was an urgent necessity to revive joint Arab work.

Mr. Masri said no date had yet been fixed for the proposed summit because invitations were still being distributed. Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Kibi will fix the date once acceptance have been received, he added.

Arab summits are normally held at least once a year, but internal divisions have kept Arab leaders from meeting since September 1982, when the Fez summit was held.

PLO envoy escapes bomb attack in Nicosia

NICOSIA (AP) — A bomb explosion damaged the home of the representative of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) here early Wednesday, wounding one person slightly and causing structural damage, police reported.

The bomb blew out doors and windows of the single-storey residence of the PLO representative. It also shattered glass windows and doors of neighbouring houses in a quiet residential district of the capital.

The loud explosion at 3.30 a.m. local time (0030 GMT) was heard all over the city and woke up many residents.

Malah Abdo, the PLO representative, told the Associated Press that he and members of his family were all asleep at the time.

"We were very lucky none of us was hurt, except for my father in law who suffered minor cuts in his arm from flying glass," Mr. Abdo said.

There have been about a dozen bomb and assassination attacks against PLO officials in Cyprus in recent years. Police believe some of these were carried out by Israeli agents and others by rival Palestinian factions opposed to the leadership of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"Maybe this is from Israel," the spokesman said of the attack. "but up till now we are not sure. We have no definite indication who did it."

No progress in Geneva talks, U.S. delegate says

BRUSSELS (R) — U.S. chief negotiator Max Kampelman told the NATO allies Wednesday there had been no movement of substance in the second round of the U.S.-Soviet arms talks in Geneva, which ended Tuesday, alliance sources said.

But they said he had reported a less polemical tone from Soviet negotiators in the six-week session than during the first round earlier this year.

Chief Soviet negotiator Viktor Karpov said Tuesday there had been no progress and blamed the deadlock on President Reagan's space weapons research programme, popularly dubbed "Star Wars."

Mr. Kampelman, who deals with space weapons, gave N-

ATO's council of ambassadors a two-hour briefing, along with the negotiators on strategic nuclear weapons and medium-range missiles. John Tower and Maynard Giltman.

A NATO spokesman said the council "welcomed once again the opportunity for confidential exchanges on developments during the recently concluded second round." He refused to discuss details of the briefing.

The sources said Wednesday's meeting discussed prospects for a Soviet arms control initiative now that Communist Party leader Mikhail Gorbachev had consolidated his power and moved former Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko into the largely ceremonial presidency.

The assembly passed in open session Wednesday a 1985-86 state budget projecting a 587.1 million dollar (\$1.94 billion) deficit, 16.5 per cent lower than in 1984/85.

Parliamentary sources said the defence budget, which is routinely discussed by the assembly in closed session, was also approved, but gave no details.

Deputies met amid tight security following last week's restaurant bombings which left eight dead. A wide area around the assembly was cordoned off by police and the National Guard.

Italy, Japan demand U.S. consultations over SDI

ROME (R) — Italy and Japan have insisted that the United States consult its allies and negotiate with Moscow before installing any space-based defence system, a spokesman for Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said Wednesday.

America's strategic defence initiative (SDI), the so-called "Star Wars" project, has featured prominently in Nakasone's meetings with Prime Minister Bettino Craxi and Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, officials of both sides said.

In his talks with Mr. Craxi Tuesday, Mr. Nakasone said Japan needed more time and information before deciding whether to take part in the U.S. initiative.

"So far, we understand it is defensive and non-nuclear but we are still far from reaching any conclusion whether to participate," Mr. Nakasone's spokesman Hiro-moto Seki told reporters in Rome Wednesday.

He said the two leaders agreed the U.S. must consult its allies and hold talks with the Soviet Union before setting up any space-based defensive network. Mr. Nakasone had repeated his view that the U.S. should not use SDI to seek supremacy over the Soviet Union.

In their talks at Mr. Craxi's office, the Italian and Japanese prime ministers also assessed the new Soviet leadership, the French-proposed Eureka.

Kuwaiti assembly votes to cancel aid obligation

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's parliament voted Wednesday to cancel formal aid pledged to frontline states bordering Israel under a 1978 Arab summit resolution in Baghdad.

The chairman of the National Assembly's finance committee, Mishari Al Anjari told reporters the vote was taken in a closed session at which the government agreed to accept a budget ceiling for foreign aid without earmarking fixed sums for specific countries.

The parliamentary decision has to be approved by Kuwait's emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and five other oil-producing states agreed in Baghdad to pay \$30 billion over 10 years to Syria, Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Mr. Anjari said the beneficiaries could still make use of a 150 million dinar (\$500 million) non-binding aid package set aside for Arab and other Third World states in the coming year.

The government will share out the funds at its discretion, but there was no longer any article in the state budget which committed Kuwait to the Baghdad summit resolution, he said.

The government earlier earmarked 100 million dinars (\$340 million) for Syria, Jordan and the PLO in the 1985-86 fiscal year which started on July 1, unchanged from last year.

Under the original draft budget, Syria was to receive 57 million dinars (\$194 million), and Jordan and the PLO 43 million dinars (\$146 million) between them.

Kuwait had already slashed its aid to frontline states in the 1984-85 budget from 165 million dinars (\$560 million) the previous year, because of sliding oil income.

The nine-member finance committee proposed an end to the steadfastness aid this year after deputies complained of what they said were abuses in the way it had been spent.

They also opposed continued adherence to the Baghdad accord while other signatories failed to meet their commitments.

Jordan has received no aid from Algeria or Libya since the agreement, and Iraq stopped payments after war broke out with Iran in 1980. Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are the other donors.

The aid vote seemed to be a compromise between deputies seeking an end to a standing obligation on frontline aid and those wanting to keep the funds flowing.

Parliamentary sources said they believed the government might still pay out in frontline aid the 100 million dinars it originally planned to set aside.

The finance committee had recommended only 80 million dinars (\$265 million) be budgeted for official foreign aid in the coming year, but the chamber approved a government request to raise this to 150 million dinars, they said.

Details of how many deputies backed or opposed the aid changes, and of how much official foreign aid was given in the year just ended, were not immediately available.

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CEROLL Budapest See page 3

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Syrian press urges renewed Lebanese reconciliation efforts

"unless Egypt is part of it."

the Arab nation have realised that Zionism by itself was no longer sufficient to achieve these objective" of partitioning the Arab World, "so they used the rulers of Iran and pushed them to participate in destroying the Arab nation."

Mr. Hussein blamed Iran for acts of terrorism and sabotage in Arab countries of the Gulf and Lebanon.

"The poison daggers that stab the Iraqis are the same poison daggers that stab the Palestinians and the Lebanese and threaten security and stability in the Arab countries" of the Gulf, Mr. Hussein said.

He was obviously referring to the recent explosions in two seaside cafes in Kuwait, in addition to the attacks on Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut, Lebanon, last June by pro-Iranian Lebanese Shi'ite militiamen of the Amal faction.

Mr. Hussein said "enemies of

"unless Egypt is part of it." Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, along with King Hussein of Jordan, last March made a surprise, one-day visit to Iraq. The two leaders, according to official reports, discussed with the Iraqi president Iraq's military position along the front with Iran, after a seven-day, major offensive by the Persian power across the southern Iraqi Huweizah Marshland. Baghdad was the only Arab capital to be visited by Mr. Mubarak, although it does not have diplomatic relations with Cairo.

Iraqi Deputy Premier Taha Yassin Ramadan made a three-day visit to Cairo on June 25, 10 days earlier, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz made what was officially termed a "special, urgent and important" visit to Egypt. Mr. Ramadan, during his stay in Cairo, voiced Iraq's denunciation of the TWA hijacking.

Tulkarem shops stage protest

AMMAN (Petra) — Shopowners at the Tulkarem refugee camp closed their shops Tuesday until further notice in protest to Israeli arbitrary measures, according to reports received here from the West Bank. The reports said that the Israeli occupation authorities raided shops, seized account books and demanded that shopowners pay exorbitant taxes, irrelevant to the contents of their shops.

AZIZ ARRIVES — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri receives Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Tareq Aziz Wednesday, upon his arrival at the Amman Airport (Petra photo)

Moroccan charges spark new crisis with Algeria

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — An official Moroccan accusation that Algeria is training, arming and infiltrating terrorists into Neighbouring Morocco sparked a new crisis Wednesday in relations between the two North African Arab nations.

Algerian spokesmen and state-run media launched sharp attacks on the government of Morocco's King Hassan II, claiming that the Moroccan authorities were spreading "deliberate falsehoods" intended to create renewed tension in North Africa to embarrass Algeria on the eve of the Arab

It was the first time since 1973 that Morocco has officially accused Algeria of sponsoring terrorism against the government of King Hassan, although the two nations have had no diplomatic relations for the past 10 years and repeatedly come to the verge of outright war.

The official Algerian News Agency, quoting unnamed government spokesmen, said Mr. Basri's statement was "a clumsy and unscrupulous lie...intended to tarnish Algeria's reputation as a respected member of the international community."

One diplomat pointed out that the new row flared up on the same day that King Hassan's chief political adviser, Redi Guedira, delivered a personal message from

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian newspapers Wednesday urged renewed efforts toward Lebanese national reconciliation and called on militias to adhere to a security plan implemented in mainly Muslim west Beirut Tuesday.

said of the guerrillas. "We should learn from their example."

"The Lebanese people should seize this golden opportunity to end the Lebanese crisis once and for all," the semi-official Syria Times said.

The English-language daily urged Lebanese Falangists and opposition militias to "accelerate efforts for establishing a new, healthy situation in the country. Syria is carefully watching with great hope to see peace prevail throughout the country".

The government newspaper Tishrin said: "Lebanon is manifesting today big steps toward security and reconciliation. Those who had plans to explode the situation in Lebanon have failed."

Al Baath, newspaper of Syria's ruling Baath Arab Socialist Party, called on rival opposition militiamen, who were ordered off west Beirut streets Tuesday, to join resistance guerrillas fighting Israeli forces in South Lebanon. "They were able to put aside ideological differences in order to reach a common goal," Al Baath

Meanwhile the U.S. Transportation Department Tuesday issued a ban on U.S. sales of flight tickets to Lebanon on all airlines.

The order, which has already been sent to the White House, will take effect on Sept. 8 unless President Reagan rejects it or approves it sooner, a Department spokesman said.

U.S. and Lebanese Airlines after last month's hijacking of a TWA airliner in which one American was killed and 39 others were held in Beirut for 17 days. Under the order, all foreign and domestic airlines would be prohibited from selling flight tickets in the United States with Lebanon as a destination, even if the flights originated in another country and never entered the United States.

"The security of aircraft transiting that country (Lebanon) and the safety of passengers on board such aircraft remain in jeopardy," the order said.

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United States has reiterated its rejection of Libya's claim to the Gulf of Sidra and termed a purported Libyan ban on shipping there unlawful interference with freedom of navigation.

Lt. Gen. Vernon Walters, the chief American delegate, made known Washington's views in a note circulated to all member states of the United Nations.

He said international law does not permit a coastal state to limit innocent passage through its territorial sea to certain periods of time, such as during daylight, and the state may not claim to condition the right of innocent passage upon prior notification to it.

Nor does international law permit a coastal state to subject an area of its territorial sea to a permanent prohibition on navigation, Gen. Walters said.

"The United States reiterates

its rejection of the Libyan claim that the Gulf of Sidra constitutes international waters ... and, accordingly, the United States rejects as an unlawful interference with the freedoms of navigation and overflight and related high seas freedoms, the Libyan claim to prohibit navigation in zone C or elsewhere in the Gulf of Sidra," Gen. Walters said.

Zone C lies within the Gulf in an

Gen. Walters's note was a response to a notice to mariners regarding navigational regulations in waters off the coast of Libya issued by the Libyan government with effect from June 1.

He said that two of those regulations did not appear to be limited to vessels intending to call at Libyan ports, but rather to vessels exercising the internationally recognised right of innocent passage.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19	BBC WORLD SERVICE 639, 720, 1413 KHz	TODAY'S EVENTS	QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
MAIN CHANNEL 17:00 Koran 17:20 Cartoons 17:30 Children's Programme 18:30 Agricultural Programme 19:25 Programme Review 19:35 News Programme: The Week's	CIRCUS * Hungarian circus at Hussein Youth City - performances a day. * Italian circus. Between 6th and 7th Circle near Jordan Electricity Authority.	ARRIVALS 10:15 Aqaba (RJ) 10:30 Kuwait (RJ) 10:40 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) 10:45 Cairo (RJ) 10:45 Jeddah (RJ) 10:50 Doha, Bahrain (RJ) 11:00 Dhahran (RJ) 11:05 Doha, Riyadh (RJ) 12:30 Istanbul (TK) 13:00 Muscat, Sharja, Bahrain (GF) 14:05 Cairo (MS) 14:05 Kuwait (RJ) 17:05 Baghdad (IA) 17:30 Baghdad (IA) 18:30 Cairo, Aqaba (RJ) 18:35 Athens (GR) 18:55 Amsterdam, Larnaca (KLM) 19:05 Athens, Damascus (JA) 20:25 Zurich, Larnaca (BA) 21:55 London, Larnaca (BA) 01:25 Baghdad (RJ)	EMERGENCIES Amman governorate 891228 Amman civil defence 198, 199 Civil Defence Unit 271293, 273151 Civil Defence Jweish 770733 Ambulance 193, 773111 Amman downtown fire brigade 198 First aid 620344 Blood bank 778303 Civil Defence rescue 661111 Police headquarters 622900 Police rescue 192, 621111, 637777 Police headquarters 639141 Traffic police 8963901 Electric Power Co. 636381(A), 624881 Municipal water complaints 771258 Queen Alia Int. Airport (081) 5330660
FOREIGN CHANNEL French Programme: Interare News in French 19:00 Les amours de jeunesse 19:30 News in Hebrew No Place Like Home Towards 2000 21:00 Fanfare of Love 22:00 News in English 22:15 Murder She Wrote	CINEMA * "Cecile's avar sept ans" at 7.45 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.	DEPARTURES 06:20 Frankfurt (LH) 06:30 Aqaba (RJ) 06:40 Beirut (MEA) 06:50 Damascus, Paris (AF) 07:00 Vienna, New York (AR) 12:15 Aqaba, Cairo (RJ) 12:30 Athens (RJ) 13:00 Paris, London (RJ) 13:15 Frankfurt, Brussels (LH) 13:30 Riyadh, Bahrain (RJ) 13:35 Istanbul (TK) 13:40 Kuwait (RJ) 14:15 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (GF) 14:20 Cairo (MS) 15:35 Kuwait (RJ) 15:35 Baghdad (IA) 19:00 Baghdad (IA) 19:00 Damascus, Frankfurt (RJ) 20:30 Kuwait (RJ) 20:40 Bahrain, Doha (RJ) 21:40 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ) 21:40 Cairo (RJ) 21:40 Dubai, Muscat (RJ) 21:40 Baghdad (RJ) 21:40 Jeddah (RJ) 21:40 Abu Dhabi (RJ) 02:15 London (BA)	NIGHT DUTY AMMAN: Dr. Nabil Hinnawi 773806 Dr. Mohamed Azzam 818411 Al Salam pharmacy 636783 First pharmacy 661912 Fresh pharmacy 770910 Omar pharmacy 642737 Raghibat pharmacy 667674 Khalaf pharmacy 776653
RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 9560 KHz, SW Tel: 774111-19	JERASH FESTIVAL Thursday, July 18, 1985	WEATHER Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. It will be fair. Scattered low clouds will appear in the morning. Slightly moderate winds will be freshening at times. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm seas.	HOSPITALS Husseini Medical Centre 813813/232 Husni Maternity, I. Amn 644281/6 Aishah Maternity 624421/2 Jabal Amman Maternity 642262 Mishal, I. Amn 636140 Palestine, Samarra 6641714 Stamein Hospital 669131 University Hospital 845845/6 Al-Musharraf Hospital 667227/9 Al-Mishar, Abdullah 666127/3 Al-Ahli, Abdul 664164/6 Italian, Al-Muhajir 7770107 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafiah 7711126 Army, Marka 8961115
VOICE OF AMERICA MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 15210 KHz	PRAYER TIMES 06:03 Fajr 05:41 (Sunrise) Duha 16:23 Asr 19:42 Maghreb 21:20 Isha	PRAYER TIMES 06:03 Fajr 05:41 (Sunrise) Duha 16:23 Asr 19:42 Maghreb 21:20 Isha	GENERAL Jordan Television 773111/19 Radio Jweish 774111/19 Ministry of Tourism 642211 Hotel complaints 666512 Price complaints 661176 Telephone information 12 Jordan and Middle East calls 10 Overseas calls 17 Repair service 11
FOR FRIDAY JORDAN TELEVISION MAIN CHANNEL 10:00 Koran 10:30 Children's Programme 10:40 Agricultural Programme 11:10 Religious Programme 12:00 Arabic Series 12:30 Friday Prayer 13:05 Religious Programme 13:45 Sports Festival 15:00 Cooking Programme 16:50 Arabic Series 17:30 Local Programme 18:05 Religious Programme 19:33 Prayers 20:00 News in Arabic 20:15 Contexts 21:10 Varieties	BBC WORLD SERVICE 639, 720, 1413 KHz Friday, July 19, 1985	QUEEN ALIA INT'L AIRPORT This information is supplied by Airline information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 532005, where it should always be verified.	MARKET PRICES Upper/lower price in filr per kg Apple (local) 260/280 Apple (American) 350/280 Apricots 400/300 Bananas 280/240 Beans (local) 240/120 Beans (local) 90/60 Cabbage 140/120 Carrot (without leaves) 170/130 Cauliflower 90/60 Cucumber (large) 150/120 Cucumber (small) 90/60 Eggplant (large) 140/100 Eggplant (small) 340/300 Garlic 110/80
RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 9560 KHz, SW	VOICE OF AMERICA MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 15210 KHz	ARRIVALS 10:15 Aqaba (RJ) 10:30 Kuwait (RJ) 10:40 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) 10:45 Cairo (RJ) 10:45 Jeddah (RJ) 10:50 Doha, Bahrain (RJ) 11:00 Dhahran (RJ) 11:05 Doha, Riyadh (RJ) 12:30 Istanbul (TK) 13:00 Muscat, Sharja, Bahrain (GF) 14:05 Cairo (MS) 14:05 Kuwait (RJ) 17:05 Baghdad (IA) 17:30 Baghdad (IA) 18:30 Cairo, Aqaba (RJ) 18:35 Athens (GR) 18:55 Amsterdam, Larnaca (KLM) 19:05 Athens, Damascus (JA) 20:25 Zurich, Larnaca (BA) 21:55 London, Larnaca (BA) 01:25 Baghdad (RJ)	DEPARTURES 06:20 Frankfurt (LH) 06:30 Aqaba (RJ) 06:40 Beirut (MEA) 06:50 Damascus, Paris (AF) 07:00 Vienna, New York (AR) 12:15 Aqaba, Cairo (RJ) 12:30 Athens (RJ) 13:00 Paris, London (RJ) 13:15 Frankfurt, Brussels (LH) 13:30 Riyadh, Bahrain (RJ

Australian parliament speaker arrives in Jordan

RAMTHA (Petra) — Speaker of the Australian House of Parliament Henry Jenkins arrived here Wednesday on a five-day official visit upon an invitation from speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akel Al Fayez.

Mr. Jenkins, who arrived in Amman via Jordan's northern border check point at Ramtha, told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that during his stay he will discuss with parliamentarians means to promote and increase cooperation in parliamentary affairs between the two countries.

He added that his visit also aims to examine the Palestinian problem and efforts which are being exerted to solve the issue and to secure peace in the region.

Jordan and Australia have friendly ties which were boosted after His Majesty King Hussein's state visit to Australia a few years ago.

Receiving him at the Ramtha border post were Lower House of Parliament Deputy Speaker Ismail Hijazi, the Ramtha border director general and Australian Ambassador in Amman Richard Gate.

Mr. Jenkins arrived from Syria where he held talks with Syrian President Hafez Assad. The Australian parliamentarian visited Damascus as part of an initiative to improve bilateral relations between the two countries, the official Syrian Arab News Agency reported. The agency gave no other details of the meeting.



Speaker of the Australian parliament Henry Jenkins (fourth left) is met at the Ramtha border post by Deputy Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Ismail Hijazi (to Mr. Jenkins' left). Mr. Jenkins arrived in Jordan Wednesday on a five-day visit (Petra photo)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Decree approves security agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree has been issued approving the Al Riyadh Arab agreement on security. The agreement was approved during the meetings of the Arab Justice Ministers Council held recently in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Rifai requests information for youth

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai has issued an official circular requesting ministries and official departments to provide the Ministry of Youth with all information and bulletins required by Jordanian students abroad. A section for youth affairs was set up at the ministry earlier this year.

Cabinet appoints company representatives

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet Wednesday decided to appoint government representatives in the board of directors of the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company, the Jordan Fertilizer Industry Company and the Arab Potash Company as of July 20.

JCO holds board meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) held a board meeting Wednesday under the chairmanship of JCO Director General Hassan Al Nabulsi. The board decided to extend JD 252,000 in loans to seven agricultural cooperative societies. The loans were granted to the societies to enable them to improve production. The board also decided to accept the cooperative society of Al Muroug in Zarqa as a member of the JCO.

Abe leaves after talks

(Continued from page 1)

Asked what came out of the 20-minute tripartite discussion, Mr. Masri said Wednesday: "You don't expect from every meeting something solid."

"But just the idea that they exchanged ideas and they talked about the matter and will continue finding venues for improvement by itself is something."

A Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman, T. Kagami, told reporters Tuesday that discussions about the war were a major purpose of Mr. Abe's trip to Jordan and Syria.

"Jordan and Syria may have some information which Japan does not have which might give Abe some new ideas," Kagami told reporters.

Apart from his talks with the Japanese foreign minister, Mr. Aziz is also expected to have discussions with Mr. Masri on convening an extraordinary pan-Arab summit to discuss the Palestinian problem. The summit was proposed by Morocco's King Hassan II and Jordan and Iraq were among the first Arab countries to support the proposal.

Mr. Aziz told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that his visit to Jordan was within continuing Iraqi-Jordanian consultations on issues of common interest. He said his visit comes within the context of Jordanian-Iraqi preparations and coordination for the proposed summit.

Iraq sees a great need for such a summit in order to revitalize Arab common action, he told Petra.

He said preparations for the summit were progressing satisfactorily, but that there were some obstacles, but "we will not wait for those who are boycotting the conference since the majority (of the Arab League member states) wants it convened."

Mr. Abe, in a statement to Petra prior to his departure for Syria by road through the Ramtha border post, said he was glad to have visited Jordan and praised Jordan's efforts for development and modernization.

He described his meeting with Mr. Rifai as "highly fruitful" and said it laid the foundation for supporting and expanding the existing cooperation between Jordan and Japan.

Referring to the talks he had with Mr. Rifai, Mr. Masri and other officials on the Middle East problem, Mr. Abe said he highly valued the positive and concrete proposals put forward by Jordan for peace in the Middle East and stressed Japan's willingness and determination to continue cooperation with Jordan and support the Kingdom's efforts.

Mr. Abe pledged Japanese support for the joint Jordanian-Palestinian strategy towards a peaceful settlement in the Middle East and said he would exert efforts with his government to support it in various international forums.

Referring to bilateral relations and cooperation, Mr. Abe said Japan was ready to contribute to Jordan's developmental endeavours by providing technical expertise and equipment.

On Tuesday, Mr. Abe and Planning Minister Abdullah Nsour signed a technical cooperation agreement which defines the framework for Jordanian-Japanese technical cooperation and process of the Far Eastern country's technical aid programme for the Kingdom.

Mr. Abe described the talks he had with Mr. Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and Mr. Aziz as "important" and said he was glad to have held meetings with them.

Mr. Arafat told reporters after the meeting later Tuesday that his talks with the Japanese minister were successful and that Mr. Abe had reiterated Japan's full support for the Feb. 11 Jordan-PLO agreement.

He said the Japanese minister expressed hope that both Jordan and the PLO take "more advanced steps" for establishing a just peace in the Middle East.

Mr. Arafat said that the Japanese minister promised to continue his government's support for the Palestinian people, and, as an expression of this support, Japan has decided to increase its aid to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinian refugees and to grant scholarships for Palestinian students.

The meeting between Mr. Arafat and Mr. Abe was attended by PLO Deputy Military Commander Khalil Al Wazir, PLO Executive Committee members Mohammad Milhem and Brigadier Abdul Razaq Al Yahya and the head of the PLO office in Japan, Dr. Baker Abdul Salam.

Later Wednesday, Renter reported Mr. Abe's arrival in Damascus and quoted official sources, as saying the Iran-Iraq war would also be high on the agenda during his two-day visit before he goes on to Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Abe and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara'a also will discuss Japanese-Syrian technical cooperation and recent Middle East political developments, the sources said.

Diplomatic sources told Renter Syria could play a key role in ending the war through its alliance with Iran.

Court rules in favour of journalist in medical association libel case

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A primary court has dismissed a libel suit filed by the Jordan Medical Association (JMA) against columnist Hani Al Saoudi. The court ruled that critics of social, economic or other issues who air their views through local press will not be subject to trial and conviction if their well-intentioned criticism is within a framework of certain regulations.

The precedent was set by Judge Qasem Al Momani in a case filed by the JMA against Mr. Saoudi for his critical article "Medical Fees and a Personal Experience," which was published on Nov. 11, 1983 in the Arabic daily newspaper Al Rai. Judge Momani passed a verdict in favour of critic Mr. Saoudi and charged the JMA for trial fees and jurists wages.

In the case against Mr. Saoudi, the JMA considered his article as "abusive" against the association.

The court had earlier called six defence witnesses for testimony before it passed its verdict. The witnesses were former Minister of Information Salah Abu Zaid, Journalists Association President and Al Rai Chief Editor Mahmoud Abu Kayed, journalist Ibrahim Abu Nab, former Minister of Tourism and Culture Taher Hikmat, former Press and Publications Department Director General Ahmad Al Otoum and Dr. Mamdouh Abbadi.

In their testimonies, Mr. Abu Zaid, Mr. Kayed, Mr. Abu Nab and Mr. Otoum referred to the use of the writer's terms "the guardian is the robber" and "artificial barriers laid by the JMA against registration of newly-graduated doctors as means to defend high medical fees imposed by the association." They said that these terms were in the context of the article and that they considered them as "permitted criticism."

Mr. Hikmat said the term "the guardian is the robber" was not directly levelled at the JMA but rather was used to highlight a point and therefore it is hard to decide whether the term represented "barsh criticism". He went on to say that the other terms were not defamatory and were within the ethics of journalism.

The verdict could be taken to the court of appeal and JMA President Hassan Khreis told the Jordan Times that the association intends to meet with its legal adviser to discuss appeal procedures. When asked about his opinion of the verdict, Mr. Khreis said it was a legal issue and he had nothing to comment on the matter.

The conditions specified by the court for criticism state that the point of discussion must be factual and that the critic must cite these facts. He is entitled to criticise them provided that it is of social importance. The verdict also made it a condition for the critic to have good intentions and to use proper terms in his writing.

Bashir outlines Jordan's progress, stands to delegates at Nairobi conference

Following is the text of a speech delivered by Mrs. Hajia Al Bashir Wednesday to the International United Nations Conference on Women, currently being held in Nairobi, Kenya. Mrs. Bashir, who is the head of the Jordanian delegation to the conference and president of the General Federation of Jordanian Women, outlined the development and achievements of Jordanian women during the United Nations Women's Decade.

I am honoured to head the delegation of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and take this opportunity to congratulate you for the confidence granted in you as chairman of this historic international conference, hoping that it would reach with your ability and efforts as well the cooperation of the participants and the conference's board members to the success we all strive for and to achieve benefits for women all over the world consolidating their role and reinforcing their efforts towards greater participation in development, equality, peace and prosperity for all nations.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to the people of Kenya and its government for their endless efforts in holding this meeting and hosting this large number of participants.

My country, Jordan, proceeds in all its endeavours to develop and adopt to everything advanced out of a true belief in the importance of modernization and with special concentration on the role of women.

The role of the Jordanian woman cannot be separated away from the role of the Arab woman and is based on two fundamental elements, spiritual steadfastness and contemporary modernity.

The Islamic religion was fair to women fourteen centuries ago because the true Islam is the religion of equality in human values. Its message condemns all aspects of discrimination between people. The Holy Koran equalised men to women in its provisions and rules, and in rights and duties.

The constitution of Jordan relies on legislative foundations and nationalistic trends that believe in the importance of human beings, men or women and the responsibility of economic and social development depends on them both in a joint effort to develop the nation.

Academic, health sectors

The constitution ensured the rights of men and women to work, vote and nomination. The Jordanian woman has progressed in the academic and health sector as well as in work during the women's decade. Illiteracy has dropped from 85 per cent in 1961 to 29 per cent at the end of the decade.

The country adopts a preventive health policy as a priority to guarantee the interests of women and children. The per-

centage of women workers has increased five times that at the beginning of the women's decade.

This is a brief summary on the progress, women have achieved in the academic, health and working sectors. The participation of women in high administrative posts is still limited although they have occupied high political positions such as ministers and consultants in the National Assembly. Women form 45 per cent of the total number of students in the Jordanian universities. The percentage of women has risen over that of men in the colleges of pharmacy, architecture and human sciences over the last few years.

This was a summary on the position of women who live in an area that suffered since the beginning of this decade from instability and painful wars, in Palestine, Lebanon and Iraq.

Our country Jordan is a confrontation state that was greatly affected by the Zionist aggression that resulted in the occupation of large part of the land and the emigration of people. This consequently demands financial and humanitarian responsibilities towards our people in the occupied land and the emigrants in Jordan because of our country's special empathy with the Palestinian issue.

This situation prevented a comprehensive development in the area not only for women but for men also.

The circumstances of the occupation denied the Arab individual a secure living and the Palestinian individual of living in his or her country and on his or her national soil.

My country Jordan represented by the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein and his government believes in dialogue as a means of communication between human beings, and strives towards that goal believing that God created people to meet and assist one another in kindness and Godliness. The events of our age demand a decent living and determine that dialogue be centred on everyday essential issues that threaten the peace and security of the whole world when they shake or collapse in a certain area or part and restrain the development and equality as well.

Our area has witnessed ugly massacres that will never be wiped out of our memories.

The world of communication confirms that the world issues and problems are the issues and problems of all nations and societies. The world cannot shut itself away from these facts or disregard the importance of protecting the interests of all nations and the human rights. The Arab citizen believes in the rights of the Palestinians on their own land and insists on their identity and supports of their cause.

The Arab citizen is convinced that the stealing of land and the expulsion of its people cannot co-exist and must clarify that supplying the Zionist aggressor with weapons will only encourage that aggressor to adopt the policy of war and expansion.

You all probably agree with me that humanity and religious teachings forbid usurping of land by force, massacres, and civilisation destroying wars. The importance of this international meeting is that it will provide us with an opportunity of a democratic dialogue and the chance of presenting our cause to the whole world, this issue which will continue to form a fervent centre in the Middle East unless a just solution is reached based on legitimacy and mutual respect between all nations of the area.

This is an excellent opportunity to unify our goals in this conference and unite in solidarity to participate in constructing world where security, assurance of freedom, peace and equality prevail among all nations to enable them to develop and achieve their national sovereignty and self determination and to establish their independent state on their national soil.

PLO chairman opens third Sa'med conference

Economic establishment to be nucleus for future Palestinian public sector, Arafat says

AMMAN (J.T.) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat Wednesday opened the third conference for 'Sa'med', the PLO's economic establishment which for the last 15 years has supervised a group of Palestinian economic institutions and factories in the Middle East and Africa.

Addressing the opening session, Mr. Arafat described Sa'med as a "nucleus of a future Palestinian public sector." He said that Sa'med represents a unique experience in the history of national liberation movements because it is actually founding the basis for a Palestinian national economy in the diaspora.

The Palestinian leader said that most Sa'med factories in Lebanon were destroyed during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon but were rebuilt despite the huge losses the establishment incurred. "Sa'med is not a commercial organisation and is not based on the calculation of loss and profit," he said. "Sa'med has more important goals as a national institution," the PLO leader added.

Mr. Arafat said that many factories and institutions administered by Sa'med were again destroyed during the war offensive launched by Shi'ite Amal militias against three Palestinian

refugee camps last month. He said that the central committee of Fateh had taken a decision to rebuild Sa'med's institutions in Beirut. "There would always be a decision to rebuild Sa'med's institutions wherever our people are present," he said. Mr. Arafat explained that the PLO does not provide finances for the rebuilding of Sa'med's institutions but that the establishment itself is capable of securing funds for this purpose.

The opening session was attended by senior Palestinian officials including Palestine National Council (PNC) Speaker Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sa'eh, Deputy Commander of PLO forces Khalil Al Wazir, PLO Executive Committee member Mohammad Milhem and Fateh Central Committee member Hael Abdul Hamid.

Sa'med, which in Arabic means steadfastness, was established in 1970 by a decision of the central committee of Fateh. According to

the decision, Sa'med had the objectives of providing work and training opportunities for sons and daughters of Palestinians who were killed during war and for all Palestinians spread in the Arab World, and later in Africa, and to lay the foundation for a future Palestinian economy.

"The importance of the conference being held in Amman is the addition of a very important dimension to the February 11 Jordanian-Palestinian accord; the economic dimension," Mr. Arafat said.

Sa'med Director-General Abu Ala' said the organisation could form the nucleus of the public sector of the future Palestinian state, "opening common channels of cooperation in several fields between Jordan and the PLO."

He said Sa'med had trained 30,000 persons, and employed 3,000 people in Lebanon, 3,000 Africans in joint ventures with friendly African states and had a cadre of 300 engineers.

Sa'med's leather, clothing, furniture, and other factories in Lebanon were destroyed during the 1982 Israeli invasion at a loss of \$17 million, Abu Ala' said.

"We are committed to paying the salaries of all our employees, and we will rebuild again according to a PLO executive committee resolution," Abu Ala' said.

Japanese official announces increase in aid for Palestinian refugees

AMMAN (Agencies) — Japan will increase its contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinian Refugees to \$9 million this year, a Japanese foreign ministry official said Wednesday.

In addition to this aid, which is \$500,000 more than last year, Takeshi Kagami, a spokesman for visiting Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, said Japan would also provide wheat, flour, worth \$4.4 million.

UNRWA has appealed for fresh funds to avoid further cutbacks in services to Palestinian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. Japan gave UNRWA \$54.8 million in cash and \$35.9 million in food aid between 1965 and 1984. It also provided technical training for Palestinian in Japan.

Mr. Kagami also said Japan would extend for the first time a \$1 million grant to the U.N. World Food Programme for Palestinian refugees.

Meanwhile the agency issued a release stating that the United States government has decided to make a special contribution of \$8 million to the financially troubled agency.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan

approved the special contribution on July 12 and it is in addition to the regular U.S. contribution of \$67 million for 1985.

UNRWA began 1985 with an expected shortfall between cash requirements and estimated cash income. The agency has cut over \$4.3 million from its budget in three stages over the past six months and special contributions have come from Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

The special U.S. contribution reduces to \$8 million the amount still needed to maintain UNRWA's programmes in 1985.

Agency officials are now urgently consulting other governments on this and United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has called a number of heads of state to ask for further contributions to UNRWA "so that the agency's vital humanitarian and peace-keeping roles will not be jeopardised."

UNRWA runs schools, clinics and relief services for about two million registered Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Its income is mainly in the form of voluntary contributions from governments.

Pan-Arab committee continues discussions on food poisoning

AMMAN (Petra) — A pan-Arab committee charged with discussing the causes of food poisoning and food contamination through germs and chemical substances resumed their meetings in Amman Wednesday. The committee was set up by the Arab Health Ministers Executive Council which met in Tunis last month.

The committee members will discuss a number of working papers dealing with pollution and poisoning and will review other papers worked out by a committee preparing for an Arab health ministers meeting to be held in Amman early next year.

On the committee are members representing Jordan, Iraq, Kuwait and Syria and their deliberations are expected to last 10 days.

Majali lauds role played by desert policemen

AMMAN (Petra) — Public Security Department (PSD) Director Lieutenant General Abdul Hadi Al Majali Wednesday affirmed the important role which the Badia (desert) police play in achieving security and stability and in enforcing law and order.

LT-Gen. Majali made his remarks in a speech he delivered during the graduation ceremony for the Yarmouk Second Company which was held at the Badia police training school in Azraq.


"The Badia policemen are Jordan's watchmen on its longest borders. They achieve stability and stand along the borders proudly and gallantly to combat terrorism and sabotage and to foil evil and aggression against this country," LT-Gen. Majali said.

He added that the desert policemen have an important role in building and ensuring the prosperity of Jordanian society and they are the nucleus of the Armed Forces and the foundation stone on which the PSD was built.

The Badia people are known for their fidelity, sincerity and honesty and this is reflected in their performance of their tasks, the PSD director added.

LT-Gen. Majali expressed his thanks to the school's director and to the training staff for the efforts they exerted in raising the graduates to this high level of training.

The celebration also included various military performances by military formations. LT-Gen. Majali then distributed certificates to the graduates.



BUDAPEST STATE

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Jordan Times

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Hospice should remain

JORDAN has moved once again to foil another Israeli illegal measure in the occupied Arab territories; this time to prevent the Israelis from closing down the Hospice Hospital in Arad, Jerusalem which has been providing medical services to some 40,000 Arab inhabitants in the Holy City and its surrounding area.

The hospital was operational before the 1967 occupation of the West Bank, and has continued to offer services to the Arab population until the Israeli authorities started to make its task difficult by denying it the right to expand or improve its equipment and its standard. Israel's order for the closure was ironically taken on the ground that the hospital no longer met requirements of world health standards.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh has said the Jordanian government was launching efforts at the international level to abort the Zionist attempts that violate human rights principles and international laws. The Israeli order to close down the hospital followed an Arab League Health Ministers Council decision to provide funds for the restoration, expansion and modernisation of the Arab hospital.

Denying the Arab population of low-cost health medical service is yet another Israeli move to liquidate Arab presence in Palestine, and we consider it one more link in a chain of arbitrary measures designed to evict the Palestinians from their homeland. For Jordan, it is only natural to move at all levels and exert all possible efforts to help the Palestinians and remove injustices being done to them by the occupation authorities.

Jordan and the Jordanians are maintaining their legal and national obligations towards the Palestinians and their cause. The Health Ministry's memoranda to the World Health Organization, the Human Rights Commission and other organisations urging them to stop the Israeli measures, represent one manifestation of this country's concern over the fate of the Palestinian kinsmen in the occupied Arab territories.

It is now hoped that the United Nations and the international community will extend a hand to help Jordan abort Israel's measures, and at the same time, help safeguard Palestinian people's legitimate rights and national interests.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Long-standing understanding

THE ARAB World is closely connected with Japan economically, culturally and politically. Both the Arab World and Japan had similar struggles in history and both established their relations on mutual respect and understanding. The Japanese people, who fought hard to establish themselves as a world power, appreciate the Arab people's struggle and that of the Palestinians for regaining their rights and homeland.

At a meeting between the visiting Japanese foreign minister, Mr. Abe and Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai the two sides re-emphasised their positions, which are close, and both reiterated their support for convening an international conference to solve the Palestine problem. Mr. Rifai explained to the Japanese minister the Jordanian-Palestinian accord of Feb. 11 and said that it would serve as a vehicle for implementing U.N. Security Council resolutions and those of Arab summit.

We believe that Japan and all peace-loving nations in Asia and Africa support the rights of the Palestinian people to their homeland and therefore any efforts exerted by Japan and other friendly nations towards establishing peace would no doubt help the peoples of this region to have stability and enjoy everlasting peace.

Al Dustour: Jordan bothers for expatriates

MINISTER OF Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan Tuesday expressed Jordan's keenness on preserving the interests and rights of the Jordanian expatriates and the government's desire to examine their problems and help them find solutions. The minister, who was speaking at a press conference prior to the expatriates conference on July 20, said the government hopes to further bolster the expatriates' ties with their motherland and help them contribute further towards its progress and prosperity.

Jordan is proud of the skilled manpower now employed in various Arab states and appreciates the expatriates' contributions towards building the country. Through their financial transfers, the expatriates have made a true and meaningful contribution and have also strengthened their country's ties with the Arab states employing them.

Since the expatriates have made such contributions, they have the right to air their difficulties and problems encountered abroad and ask the government to help them in any possible way. The forthcoming conference is therefore of great importance for Jordan and for the expatriates, because it represents the arena where problems can be discussed freely and the conference would open the way for the government's involvement in finding solutions to different problems.

Sawt Al Shaab: Majority summit is urgent

ARAB MASSES are watching to see if the projected Arab summit will convene on schedule or not. They are wondering what stops the Arab leaders from meeting together and discussing their problems openly, and they are wondering what prevents the Arab governments from paving the way for such a summit.

The Arab masses are sadly watching the Arab nation being weakened due to these divisions, and the Arab nation losing credibility every day due to the persistent divisions and disputes besetting them. They are also wondering if the majority of Arab states could not meet alone and take decisions for joint and decisive action that would save the nation. These masses also realise that a minority of Arab countries are determined to thwart attempts for holding a summit and oppose any joint action that would not be in their own interest. This fact makes things even worse and calls for speedy action on the part of the majority.

An Arab summit can serve as a forum for the Arab leaders to present their views and draw up plans for ending the weakness and stopping all disputes. An Arab summit should be held whether a minority of Arab states that opposes it attends or not, because such a summit has become of paramount importance not only for the leaders but also for the Arab masses themselves and for the future of their countries.

VIEW FROM AMERICA

What behind change of image in U.S. media?

By Franz Schurmann

SAN FRANCISCO — The hostage crisis is over. It was big news in the U.S. Its implications for Middle Eastern affairs and U.S. policy toward the Middle East are much greater than just the hijacking and the settlement. Here are a few impressions of the implications from an American observer.

First it seems to me that the losers in these dramatic events are the Palestinians. In all the publicity given the Shi'ites, they were never mentioned. The Shi'ites at last, got good and not-unfavourable publicity in the U.S. media. But nothing of the sort for Palestinian Arabs.

We know there was tricky diplomacy behind the hostage negotiations. The clever Israelis seem to have decided that the Shi'ites are the rising political force in Lebanon. They

want to make a deal with them to give Israel's northern borders some security. But they are as determined as ever that the Palestinians never become a rising political force in the Holy Land.

When King Hussein presented his peace plan in Washington, many Americans sympathetic to the peoples of the Middle East felt there was hope at last to unfreeze American policies and attitudes. We could sense the pressure Washington was beginning to put on Israel even if it dared not admit it.

When Israel, to everybody's surprise released some Palestinian prisoners, we felt it was because of American pressure. Maybe Israel was beginning to head. It is in deep economic trouble, it failed in its attempt to subdue Lebanon,

and it has a split political leadership. King Hussein remains highly popular in U.S. public opinion polls. And so it seemed as if, at last, Israel and representatives of the PLO (even if disguised as non-PLO members) would start talking about the fundamental political issues between them and involving the future destiny of the Holy Land.

And just as Israel was beginning to bend a little, the sky jacking took place! Suddenly, the Israelis got a new card to play with — they had abducted some 700 Shi'ite men from Lebanon. They could deal with the U.S. — Israeli hostages for Shi'ite hostages. And what would they want in return? It does not take much knowledge to figure that out: a refreezing of the Palestinian issue. Israel's policy has long been to exploit

Palestinian low-wage labour, pretend a Palestinian nation does not exist, and try to ignore or wear out its leaders.

So we ask ourselves: Has Israel, once again as so often in the past, forced Washington to backtrack from the few steps it had taken toward the Palestinians? Secondly, all is not bleak, however. For the first time, the American media have presented Arabs in a favourable human light. It was even noted that Nabin Berri had a remarkable resemblance to the governor of New York. Amal fighters were shown as human beings and not as bloody terrorists. That media coverage infuriated many in the U.S. who feel Arabs should be treated either as oil-rich sheikhs or thugs. Middle Easterners who have

seen so much death and suffering may laugh at this — who cares about what images Americans have of the Middle East? But public opinion is important in the U.S. And public opinion is not what the "man on the street" thinks but the sense of issues which American elites have. And the media play an important role in shaping that sense.

The U.S. is finally beginning to take the Middle East seriously, and not just as an arena of crisis caused by crazies. And that will benefit the Palestinians in the long-run.

A third impression is that, oddly enough, the U.S. media coverage of the hostage crisis had little to say about religion. Earlier, coverage of South Beirut showed pictures of Khomani. This time there were none. The Shi'ites were spoken

of as basically reasonable people, and the implication was they were not religious fanatics like Khomani or Hizbullah.

Americans are afraid of Shi'ite fanaticism. So when the media downplays that, then it means they are taking Arabs seriously.

To this far-away observer, it looks as if a settlement is underway in which Syria, with the support of the U.S., is going to try to mastermind an arrangement in Lebanon based on a triangle of Shi'ites, Christians and Druze. If Israel goes along, it will be on condition that the Palestinians be given no role whatsoever. We hope that this will not be so, but we can only wait and see what political consequences now unfold from the settlement of the hostage crisis.



Gorbachev meets the state iceberg

They say it takes three miles to turn an oil tanker. So, how long will it take to restructure the Russian economy? Radicalism not seen since the 1930s is the order of the day, says Patrick Cockburn.

MOSCOW — "The ice is melting," Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev said recently as he unveiled his programme for radical economic reform. Few of his compatriots, however, expected him to move so quickly to eject the top ranks of the Soviet leadership.

Within four months of coming to power, Mr. Gorbachev has appointed four new members to the ruling 13-man Politburo. He has dismissed Mr. Grigory Romanyov, his rival last year for the succession to President Chernenko, from the Politburo.

After that, Mr. Andrei Gromyko, for 28 years foreign minister and a symbol of continuity in the Soviet Union, was elevated to the presidency and replaced by Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze, the leader of the Communist Party in the southern republic of Georgia.

The generational change which has been so long predicted, the removal of the leaders who started their careers under Stalin, became powerful in the war years and flourished under Mr. Brezhnev, has finally occurred.

The development of a new leadership is important because of Mr. Gorbachev's commitment to economic reform. This was why he was first brought to Moscow in 1978 and why he reached to top so fast. Indeed, the radicalism of the reforms he has outlined in recent speeches clearly makes many party and state leaders fear for their jobs.

It is only in the last few days that Mr. Gorbachev has finally developed the political strength to overcome such opposition. With a firm grip on the Politburo he can now change the membership of the 300-strong Central Committee of the Communist Party, the repository of final authority in the Soviet Union to which top job-holders belong, in the run-up to the new party congress in February next year.

Already, Mr. Gorbachev has changed 14 regional first party secretaries of the Communist Party, the men who rule the 159 districts into which the Soviet Union is divided. This is as many as President Chernenko changed during the year he held power. The turnover in senior leaders of the state and party, which started when President Brezhnev died in 1982 and Mr. Yuri Andropov took over, is reaching a crescendo.

Mr. Gorbachev believes that he needs to move fast. In speeches in Leningrad and Moscow over the last few weeks he has referred obliquely to the disappointed hopes for economic reform in the past (notably in 1965 and 1979). "In Leningrad they are saying that the leadership has failed to tackle problems," he said recently. "They are hiding from us and making excuses that they are carrying out an experiment. Years and years pass, experiments are carried out

— but nothing changes." Such appeals for public support, unheard of in the Soviet Union since the time of Mr. Nikita Khrushchev, who lost the leadership in 1964, have themselves raised expectations of change.

The problems are vast enough. Since the mid-1970s the Soviet growth rate has slumped. Technology has lagged at a time when production cannot be increased through access to more labour or raw materials. The savings of ordinary Soviet citizens have risen as they fail to find fancy goods in the shops on which to spend their money. Productivity per head is only 55 per cent of Western levels.

The reasons for the stagnation in Soviet development are evident. In the high-speed industrialisation of the 1930s and during the war, rapid growth was achieved by throwing enormous amounts of capital, labour and raw materials into industry, to be used inefficiently, but producing impressive results. The countryside was exploited to produce cheap food for the cities.

The Soviet economy today is a victim of the success of this first phase of industrialisation. But by the early 1970s the symptoms of stagnation were apparent: "Declining growth in the productivity of capital, labour or land, increasing obsolescence of production techniques, technological stagnation, shortages of consumer goods, and a decline in the quality of industrial products," is how one Western Soviet specialist describes them.

It was during this period that the management of the Soviet economy took its present mould and Mr. Leonid Brezhnev, Soviet leader from 1964 to 1982, made no effort to change the way in which it was run. Personnel changes were also minimal. Mr. Alexei Kosygin's proposed reform of economic management in 1965 collapsed because of concerted opposition of party and state bureaucracy. By the year President Brezhnev died, the average age of government ministers was 72.

It is important not to overstate the case. The Soviet economy was not and is not in crisis. The fact that, aided by its huge raw material resources, it continued to function encouraged the creeping ossification of economic management at all levels under Mr. Brezhnev. Basic food, accommodation, transport, health and education were provided although sometimes of poor quality. Living standards went up.

Mr. Brezhnev, keen to avoid political or personnel changes, sought economic growth not by new management but by such developments as the vast oil and gas fields of Western Siberia which began to be exploited in the 1970s. Crucial areas like machine building and transport were neglected as capital investment was

poured into new projects. Demand has risen with real incomes but failure to produce the necessary consumer goods touched off a rapid expansion in the black market. The services sector is wholly inadequate. "Try to get your flat repaired," Mr. Gorbachev told a political meeting. "You will definitely have to find a moonlighter to do it for you. And he will steal the materials he needs from a construction site," he said.

Most of the 11 million Soviets who own a car are compelled to use the black market for spares. The Ministry of Automobiles decided in the early 1970s that the average life of a car in the Soviet Union would be seven years — but the fact is that cars are too valuable ever to be discarded. The ministry's miscalculation means that there is a chronic shortage of spare parts and repair shops. Similar planning failures have made buying petrol difficult.

In the short term it will be very difficult for Mr. Gorbachev to meet this pent-up demand. Capital investment is needed elsewhere with high priority going to high-technology industry, machine building and the replacement of existing plant rather than new factories built on greenfield sites.

This, says the Soviet leader, is the only way back to the high rates of growth which were achieved before 1975. To reach the targeted four per cent annual growth rate in national income without changing the present system of economic management and raising productivity would require the labour force to grow by 8-10 million over the next five years, fuel and raw materials by 10-15 per cent and capital investment by 30-40 per cent. But such resources are simply not available.

Mr. Gorbachev says he needs four per cent growth if he is to increase capital investment, meet higher defence costs and produce a limited increase in consumption all at the same time. Defence, which absorbs some 12 per cent of Soviet gross national product, has only slightly increased since 1976 according to studies by the Central Intelligence Agency. A senior Central Committee member recently quoted a claim by Mr. Caspar Weinberger, U.S. defence secretary, in 1980 that the U.S. could break the back of the Soviet economy by forcing Moscow to spend more on arms. The message seems to be that the Kremlin is not doing so.

High growth will be achieved by raising productivity through a number of different measures. Existing industry — which in the Soviet Union produce twice the return on capital of investment in new plant — will be re-equipped. At least 30 per cent of the machinery in Soviet factories is now more than 15 years old and six million workers are in repair workshops. Obsolete equipment will be withdrawn at twice the present rate.

Central planners will be given

extra clout but at the same time individual enterprises will have greater financial and planning autonomy to determine the type of products they make.

It is extremely unlikely that Mr. Gorbachev will raise the price of basic goods such as foodstuffs (meat costs two roubles a kilo) (\$2.5) or accommodation by more than a marginal amount. But the production of better quality goods is likely to be associated with higher prices in order to provide material incentives for managers and workers.

Another theme of the new economic programme is that the profitability and efficiency of an enterprise should be reflected in the salaries of those who work in it. "The problem is that you squander countless resources in every industry, but nobody is going broke, comrades," Mr. Gorbachev told a televised meeting.

Decentralisation, meanwhile, is designed to encourage greater efficiency. The greater autonomy of enterprises and concentration of capital resources in priority areas, under the direction of the state planning organisation (Gosplan), and senior party figures will reduce the power of the 90 or so ministries in Moscow which control the details of Soviet economic life.

Agriculture and energy, which have come to absorb some 55 per cent of capital investment, will cease to get the priority they received in the past. Agriculture, of which Mr. Gorbachev was himself once in charge, has continued to suck in investment without producing adequate returns. The import of almost 50 million tonnes of grain last year cost \$6.5 billion. The rise in agricultural income has also increased overall demand without leading to substantially higher output.

Energy had been far more successful until recently although the management of the oil industry has come under almost daily attack in the press over the last year. Oil output in 1984 slipped to 613 million tonnes, the first fall since the war, and the downturn has continued this year.

Instead of increasing production through the discovery of new oil deposits, the plan now is to increase the output from existing oilfields. These are now "being worked at only 40-45 per cent," according to Mr. Vitali Vorotnikov, a senior Politburo member close to Mr. Gorbachev.

Power stations are being modernised to burn less oil or converted to the use of gas. Other areas are extravagant in the use of fuel. The switch of more of the lorry fleet to diesel engines should by itself save eight million tonnes of petrol a year.

The development of a new leadership, the culmination of a process which began three years ago with the death of Mr. Brezhnev, means that the Soviet Union is now firmly set on a path of economic and political change — Financial Times news feature.

Allies influence Reagan towards moderation

By George Gedda
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The release of the TWA hostages has given President Ronald Reagan a boost in popularity. But outside the United States, few seem to see things the way he does, allies included.

On issues ranging from terrorism to deterrence to subversion, Mr. Reagan has been able to attract scant international support for his policies, leading some to detect the whiff of neutralism in the air. On one issue after another, Mr. Reagan has ignored his instincts and been forced to retreat.

His call for a global boycott of Beirut Airport has invited expressions of support from very few nations. The NATO countries are skeptical of his Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), known as "Star Wars," and most Latin American countries feel the same way about U.S. backing for Nicaraguan rebels. The economic embargo of Nicaragua, imposed two months ago, has been criticised almost everywhere.

All of this seems to have had a moderating influence on the president. His conservative supporters are particularly disappointed and wish he would have stuck by his earlier pledge to take "swift and effective retribution" against Middle East terrorists.

On the East-West issue, mainstream opinion both here and abroad holds that Mr. Reagan should at least make an attempt at improving Soviet-American relations by meeting face-to-face with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. And the president, sensing this yearning, has dropped his previous conditions for a summit and will meet with Mr. Gorbachev in November.

In June, under intense allied pressure, Mr. Reagan also ignored conservative advice when he decided to continue to abide by SALT II limits on nuclear weapons. On the other hand, he has remained firm on going ahead with SDI research for a high-tech shield against Soviet missiles attack even though NATO has declined to endorse the programme.

On terrorism, Mr. Reagan's instincts tell him to strike back but he has been unable to convince himself that would be a wise course in specific situations.

Mr. Reagan also is restrained by the knowledge that any military retaliation probably would cost the lives of innocent civilians.

Thus far, he has responded to last month's TWA hijacking cautiously, limiting himself to a call for an international boycott of Beirut Airport until Lebanese authorities provide assurances that they will stop welcoming hijackers there.

Mr. Reagan sees this as a modest proposal but he has won few converts overseas. Among Arab countries, there is almost a united front against it. One interpretation of all this is that many governments fear that close identification with the United States could make their citizens terrorist targets.

Mr. Reagan's campaign to discredit Cuba also appears to have fallen on deaf ears in Latin America. On Monday, Mr. Reagan renewed his charge that Cuba has "openly armed, trained and directed terrorists" in Latin America and elsewhere, but the clear trend in the hemisphere is toward closer ties with Cuba.

Cuba's links with such countries as Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Uruguay, Argentina, Peru and Venezuela, among others, have been on the upswing lately. President Fidel Castro's standing was further enhanced with the may visit of U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Secretary of State George Shultz has won considerable praise throughout the hemisphere for his unstinting support for the democratic evolution in Latin America.

But on Cuba, Nicaragua and the more general issue of "Marxist threat," few in the hemisphere are willing to proclaim openly their support for American policies.

Mr. Reagan can take comfort that his handling of the hostage crisis won him 72 per cent support nationally, according to one poll, but some of his advisers are worried about longer term trends.

The message he is hearing from abroad and, to some extent, from his own constituents, runs counter to some of his most deeply held convictions: That terrorists should suffer retaliation, that superpower summits should be avoided unless there are prior assurances of success, that SALT II is "fatally flawed".

LETTERS

Spare us the comparison

To the Editor:

I WOULD like to make few comments on the Jordan Times article "All Set For Fourth Jerash Festival" published on July 10. Dr. Mazen Armouti said, "Jordan's national festival is placed second on the world chart, following the Edinburgh Festival". The figure of 257 artistic events, which in my opinion is a rather misleading figure, was given. If in Jerash every performance is counted, foreign or local, classic or modern, regardless of level classification, as well as counting multiple performances by the same group, it may in the end justify mentioning such a figure, but surely does not justify placing it after the internationally reputable Edinburgh Festival.

Such a comment mainly attracts the interest and criticism of those who know and have been to the Edinburgh Festival, both foreigners residing in Jordan and Jordanians. It surely presents the hard commendable work put into the Jerash Festival in an unfavourable way.

The Edinburgh Festival began in 1947 and had the sole aim of bringing to Scotland's capital the finest performers, companies and productions in all art forms from all parts of the World, with the main stress on the international element of the event, thus making the comment invalid.

There are no grounds for implying that our festival is remotely competing with their's even in numbers — they've been 35 years in the business whilst ours is an infant! Yet, one would have wholeheartedly welcomed similarity in its administration for example, where one could write and ask for its programme and book seats for certain events in May whilst the festival takes place in July.

Raghadh Azdeh
Amman.

Jerash to host British 'Swan Lake' version

By Olga Mikhail
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Fourth Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts will this year stage one of the most refined theatrical presentations, the ballet. By definition, ballet is a complex, highly refined technique of dancing characterised by dignity, simplicity and elegance.

The London City Ballet is one of the main highlights of the Jerash Festival this year and contributes to the festival's wide-ranging programme with a full-length production of Tchaikovsky's classical ballet "Swan Lake". The London City Ballet was formed in 1978 and since 1982 its patron has been the Princess of Wales.

The company, due to arrive in Amman on July 21, includes 28 dancers and eight technicians and artists as well as Miss Frances Wilson, the company's director.

Miss Sue Beaumont, assistant representative at the British Council in Amman, said that the London City Ballet has quickly become established as one of Britain's leading ballet companies. She explained that Dr. Mazen Armouti, the festival's director, was behind the idea of inviting a ballet company from Britain. She added that he also asked for a full-length production as such a production had never been performed in Jordan and in front of a Jordanian audience.

Miss Beaumont went on to say that the London City Ballet's main philosophy is to attract new and wider audiences everywhere so that as many people as possible have the opportunity to see and enjoy classical ballet. The Jerash Festival, she continued, is the right place for this company to popularise classical ballet among people of the Middle East.



During their stay in Jordan, the company's director Frances Wilson will give a ballet workshop at the Royal Cultural Centre. This workshop, Miss Beaumont explained, will only be for one day but will serve as an inspiring ballet class and will give young ballet dancers in Jordan an incentive for the future.

Popular choice

Swan Lake is the greatest ballet that Tchaikovsky wrote and since its first production by Pepita and Ivanov in 1895 it has become one of the most popular and well-loved ballets. "We choose Swan Lake because it is a popular ballet, known to nearly everybody", Miss Beaumont said.

The history of ballet goes back to the early 16th Century Catherine de Medici of Italy married the heir to the throne of France and introduced the art of ballet. The ability to dance was as an important skill at courts and courtesans practiced and perfected the movement in order to look more graceful. The form of the ballet followed the structure of the court. Just as there were different levels of civil servants and noblemen up the ruler or monarch, so the ballet company was graded from the lowest "corps de ballet" members through the various degrees of soloist up to the ballerinas. The London City Ballet's ballerina is Marian St. Claire, who is also the assistant artistic director. Together with Harold King and Michael Beare she founded the London City Ballet in 1978.



London City Ballet — First encounter of the tragic lovers in Swan Lake

This is the first visit by the company to the Middle East. The London City Ballet gives some 240 performances every year, both in England and abroad in a wide variety of venues. During this year the company has staged productions of "Carmen," "Les Sylphides" and "Voices From God".

Miss Beaumont explained that eight British expatriates living in Amman will also join the London City Ballet during their performance. These people will not dance, she said, but appear as couriers, ladies and waiters in the court scene.

The London City Ballet is expected to present next week in Jerash a British ballet style known for its technical strength, gentleness and conservatism. For all ballet lovers, the London City Ballet will perform Tchaikovsky's classical ballet on Tuesday July 23 and July 25 at the South Theatre in Jerash.



London City Ballet — Swan Lake formation

U.S. social security celebrates 50 years

By Sam Burks

"WE CAN cover over one hundred per cent of the population against one hundred per cent of the hazards and vicissitudes of life, but we have tried to frame a law which will give some measure of protection to the average citizen and to his family against the loss of a job and against poverty-ridden old age."

With these words, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed into law the Social Security Act.

When President Roosevelt affixed his signature to that landmark bill on Aug. 14, 1935, the Great Depression was in full swing; millions of Americans were out of work; much of the country's industrial capacity was closed down; and financial institutions were in a state of disarray.

Based on the recommendations of the president's Committee on Economic Security, the new law was aimed at protecting individuals and families from economic hardship through a number of means, including old-age insurance, unemployment compensation (paid by the states), aid to dependent children and old-age assistance.

Mr. Roosevelt predicted that these measures would diminish the force of possible future depressions by providing Americans with a basic source of income that would "flatten out the peak and valleys of deflation and of inflation."

The new federally administered system of social insurance for the aged, which came to be known simply as "Social Security," was to be financed through payroll taxes paid by employees in commerce and industry and their employers. It was designed to provide a floor of income security upon which workers could build with supplementary support from savings, pensions, family resources and the like.

Expansion since 1937

Social security has come a long way since the first taxes were collected in 1937 and the first benefits paid in 1940. While fundamental programme principles — mandatory participation, benefits earned through work in covered jobs, benefit amounts related to earnings and benefits financed through earmarked payroll taxes — have not changed over the years, coverage has been expanded and the programme has been adapted to new economic and social conditions.

Today, about 95 per cent of all U.S. jobs are covered by social security, compared with less than 60 per cent when the programme began. Programme outlays account for approximately one-fourth of the federal budget. One in six Americans now receives a monthly social security check. Benefits from this programme are the primary source of income to 60 per cent of all persons 65 years of age or over, and these benefits are the sole source of income for 28 per cent of the elderly. However, about 60 per cent of American workers in the 25-35 age group also are covered by some type of private pension in addition to social security.

Workers originally paid in only one per cent of the first \$3,000 of their wages, up to a maximum of \$30 a year. Their employers contributed a like amount. The money was put into a federal trust fund from which future benefits were to be paid when each contributor reached the age of 65.

Under this concept, the social security trust fund soon built up a healthy surplus — large enough at one point to go on paying projected benefits for another 17-20 years, even if no further resources were added through new payroll taxes.

As social security became more popular, new programmes were added. In 1939, benefits were provided for dependents of retired workers and to survivors of deceased workers. Coverage was extended to farm and household workers, the self-employed, members of the armed forces and other major groups in the 1950's.

Between 1954 and 1956, benefits were authorised for disabled workers and their dependents, financed by a separate payroll tax. "Medicare" — also financed by a separate payroll tax — was added in 1965, providing hospital and medical insurance for the elderly and, seven years later, for the disabled. In 1972, automatic annual cost-of-living increases in benefits and in the maximum amount of covered earnings were provided. Most recently, in 1983, mandatory coverage was extended to newly hired federal employees, members of Congress, federal judges, the president and the vice-president, senior-level political appointees and employees of nonprofit organisations.

Current benefits

Over the years, Congress has substantially increased the basic monthly benefits payable to social security retirees. In 1940, the first year pensions were paid; for example, retirement benefits were limited to a maximum of \$41 a month for single workers and \$62 a month for an eligible worker and a nonworking spouse — modest amounts even in those days.

In figuring retirement and disability benefits, actual earnings for past years are adjusted to take into account changes in average wages. These adjusted earnings are then averaged together, and a formula is applied to obtain the benefit rate. This benefit formula is "titled" in favour of lower-income workers on the assumption that they have less opportunity to supplement their social security benefits with private savings and pensions than do higher-income workers.

A person who retires today at age 65 with 30 years of work at the U.S. minimum wage (\$6,968 in 1985), for example, receives benefits amounting to \$369 a month, or almost 64 per cent of his or her last working wage. On the other hand, an age-65 retiree who has always earned the maximum taxable wage (\$39,600 in 1985) receives \$717 a month, or about 23 per cent of his last working wage.

A person reaching retirement age in 1985 would need 8.5 years (34 quarters) of work credit to qualify for benefits. But to qualify for the maximum benefit, that person would have had to earn the maximum base wage for at least 26 years.

U.S. social security today

As a result of the 1983 amendments to the Social Security Act, the OASI and disability insurance programmes are expected to be financially sound well into the next century. The outlook for the hospital insurance fund is good through 1998, but fluctuations in hospital costs make this assumption subject to more uncertainty than is the case for the other programmes.

In 1985, about 123 million Americans are expected to work in jobs covered by the social security programme. At the end of 1984, about 36.4 million persons were receiving cash benefits totalling about \$15,000 million a month.

— U.S. Information Agency.

'Iraqi Fashions Throughout the Ages' mixes history with galaxy aesthetics

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

JERASH — The magnificent ninety-minute spectacle of "Iraqi Fashions Throughout the Ages" is not only a rich display of highly stylised haute couture but also a reflection of artistry from one of the oldest civilisations on earth.

More than 90 dresses, robes, tunics and accessories representing the ancient cultures and civilisations of the Sumerians, the Accadians, Assyrians and Hamorabians through the Islamic era and up to modern Iraq were displayed by twenty-five beautiful Iraqi models.

The fashion parade was accompanied by the voice of a narrator exploring and marking these different cultural transitions, along with classical Arabic music — a mixture of wind instruments, rabs, dafs and the charming melodies of Al Qanoun playing in the background. The setting of the ancient city of Jerash and the slide projections which followed the narration all added up to a professional and impressive show for the audience at the South Theatre.

Director of the Iraqi Fashion House and designer of the costumes, Firyal Calidar, depended heavily on mixing the ancient symbols of each culture with modern silk fabrics to introduce the history and civilisation of her country, Iraq.

From the start of the show until the end, the audience was shown extravagant and rich costumes which were masterfully designed to recreate the image of richness which dominated these cultures.

Depending heavily on bias and inlay work at the shoulders, light touches of embroidery, delicate pleats and gold calligraphy painted on all types of silk fabrics, the designer produced her rich and artistic masterpieces in subtle images.

Another delight during the parade were the accessories of jet, strass and diamond necklaces and bracelets as well as the hats with their different designs, shapes and styles. Hats were totally different to the more familiar shapes; little pointed turbans with bias inlay and glittering material, golden angelic helmets and masks only added to the show's excellence.

Dominant colours which were used to reflect the Accadian, Assyrian, Hamorabian and Sumerians were earth colours and light blue and yellow. Pictures of cave life, religious beliefs and norms of these civilisations were painted on the fabrics, so that each dress told a different story.

Clothes with a story

A special treat were the clothes which marked the Al Hariri tales; short stories encompassing adventures characterised stylistically by rhymed tales. The theme of these tales used to tackle the love of adventure, hunting and wild life. The Hariri tales dominate the Wasiti long dresses which are still worn in the central region of Iraq. Whole tales were drawn on the fabrics which looked very similar to the famous Sindbad tales and characters.

The most artistic clothes were the costumes which reflected the period of Islam. Rich colours such as green, red, blue, pink, turquoise, white and beige were used while the printed golden Islamic calligraphy contrasted with geometrical shapes and designs which are found in architectural designs on Islamic mosques.

The curtain fall of the show was as effective as its start when eight models lined up in front of the audience in white, black, red and white long dresses — the colours of their national flag while the screen showed a picture of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and His Majesty King Hussein and the flags of both Iraq and Jordan.

The Iraqi Fashion House has toured different nations of the world and has presented their show in a number of U.S. states during 1984, only a week after Iraq and America resumed diplomatic relations which were severed for 17 years.



Five of the 90 dresses, robes, tunics and accessories representing the ancient culture and civilisations of the Sumerians, Accadians, Assyrians and Hamorabians through the Islamic era and up to modern Iraq displayed at the Iraqi fashions show (photos by Youssef Al 'Allam)

Randa Habibis

That was no nice 'ball'

SO THAT hideous big round thing at the centre of the Ministry of Interior roundabout has finally disappeared. I won't miss it, will you? This sculpture (if we can call it so) was done in 1980 on the occasion of the Arab summit in Amman. It represents the world carried by two arms. I was whispered the cost of that piece and I got so shocked by the figure I heard of that I prefer not to believe it and as such not to publish it here.

One day the Municipality of Amman got tired of watching that big ball... so the bulldozers took it away. No, it was not destroyed because I suppose they felt it would be a shame to destroy such a costly piece, but it was erected elsewhere in a small park downtown, where it wouldn't be seen as much as in the Ministry of Interior quarter.

Having monuments or sculptures in Amman is a good idea if they are nice pieces of art that people can admire. They should represent items from our history. Monuments can even become touristic attractions, places where our visitors can be photographed to remember their trip to our country.

If for some reason we cannot have such nice monuments, it would be better not to have anything at all.

Leave the roundabouts (which are getting smaller everyday or even disappearing) with flowers and trees, and save us the sight of ugly pieces like the one we were seeing around here.

Cram breaks 1,500m world record, Aouita 0.04s behind

NICE, France (R) — Steve Cram upstaged two Olympic champions Tuesday night and sped in style to a world 1,500 metres record which maintained Britain's grip on the classic distances on the athletics track.

The long-limbed Cram crowned the Grand Prix meeting with a dazzling run which took the 1,500 metres mark below three and a half minutes.

His feat underlined Britain's hold on the world-record citadels of middle-distance running. Apart from the 800, 1,000 metres and one mile while another Briton, David Moorcroft, is the 5,000 metres world record holder.

"Provided Cram suffers no ill effects from his recurrent calf trouble, the stage is now set for an exciting clash between Cram and Coe over 1,500 metres in London on Friday.

Cram, reflecting on British dominance, said: "We intend to keep those records in Britain for a long time."

Judging by the way he filed the last charge of Los Angeles 5,000 metres gold medalist Aouita, he could be right.

Both dipped below the two-year-old world record of the Englishman's compatriot Steve Ovett and left 800 metres Olympic champion Cruz trailing way behind in seventh place.

Cram's three minutes 29.67 seconds sliced 1.10 seconds from Ovett's time and Aouita was just

0.04 seconds behind as he sought in vain to catch his rival, who had strode away on the bend after the bell for the last lap in a run of rare panache.

Michel Jazy, French former world mile record-holder, described the race as the greatest ever 1,500 metres race.

Cram said: "I knew that if Said was around at the finish he could push me to a great time — and he did."

But it was only in the final strides that Cram realised how close Aouita was. "I didn't know until the last five yards," he said.

"The crowd was making so much noise I couldn't hear anything and couldn't see any shadows... I just managed to pick myself up a little bit over the last few yards."

But Cram, silver medalist behind Coe in the Los Angeles Olympic 1,500 metres, knows his time for celebration is short.

The Talbot games in London will be a stiff test and at the Bislett games in Oslo there is even the possibility that Ovett might also run.

Cram said: "The Bislett mile could be one of the greatest races ever. I think that with myself, Seb, Said and Cruz, we've got the four greatest middle-distance runners in the world."

Oslo is a city of rich pickings for the tall, fair-haired athlete who clocked 3:31.34 — what was then the third fastest 1,500 metres time ever — there on June 27.

He said: "The thing about Oslo was it gave me so much confidence and belief in myself — and you need that to go for world records."

"You need to go from a long way out. You have to believe that you can do it and believe in yourself — Oslo gave me that."

Amid the excitement of Cram's mastery achievement, the exploits of Soviet world champion pole vaulter Sergei Bubka and French Olympic gold medalist Pierre Juvin lost the limelight.

Yet Bubka scaled 5.95 metres, which would have meant a world record until last Saturday when the mighty Russian cleared six metres in Paris. He failed, however, to set a new mark at 6.01.

Juvin, who briefly held the world record at 5.82 in 1983, improved on that personal best by eight centimetres with a vault of 5.90.

Karpov leads chess tournament

AMSTERDAM (R) — World champion Anatoli Karpov moved into the lead with two points after his second win in an international chess tournament Tuesday night.

Karpov, playing black, beat Brazilian Jaime Suneo Neto in the second round of the Opra chess tournament in Amsterdam. Neto was put under heavy attack which prevented him from casting and left his king under pressure.

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NEW WORLD RECORD: Britain's Steve Cram (right) winning the 1,500 metres race in a time of 3:29.67 setting a new world record during the Nika track and field event at Nice, South of France, on Tuesday night. Second was Said Aouita (no. 36) from Morocco (AP photo)

N. Zealand's rugby union abandons tour of S. Africa

WELLINGTON (R) — Rugby administrators Wednesday finally abandoned plans to send the All Blacks to South Africa but said they would fight a court battle to justify their original decision to go ahead with the controversial tour.

New Zealand rugby union chairman Ces Blazey said the national team would try to arrange a replacement tour elsewhere. Objections to the tour were prompted by South Africa's apartheid policy of racial segregation.

Wednesday's decision followed an eight-hour meeting of the union's ruling council and the 30 players chosen for the tour.

It ended speculation that the union would try to reschedule a South African tour at the end of a court hearing challenging its initial vote to go on the tour.

Prime Minister David Lange said the cancellation was "in the

best interests of New Zealand, its people, and the game of rugby itself."

Wednesday's decision — which Blazey said was made with "great reluctance" — was seen as inevitable by many commentators after the high court on Saturday stopped the union from starting the tour on Wednesday as scheduled.

Galaxy retains WBA boxing title

BANGKOK (R) — Khaosai Galaxy of Thailand retained his World Boxing Association (WBA) junior bantamweight title Wednesday night when he battered Venezuelan challenger Rafael Orona to submission after two minutes and 59 seconds of the fifth round.

As the fifth round began in front of a packed crowd at the Rajadamnern stadium, the Thai southpaw launched a vicious body attack on Orona and twice clubbed him to his knees for counts of eight.

It was the end for Orona and a minute from the finish of the round, he was struck again by a barrage of left hooks which left him helpless and Khaosai victorious as referee Ismael Wiso of Puerto Rico stopped the fight.

The victory was Khaosai's third straight consecutive knockout. The 26-year-old Thai won the title when he stopped Eusebio Espinal of the Dominican Republic in the sixth round last November.

Making good use of his height and reach advantage, Orona won a cautious first round by scoring with a left jab and a straight right and kept himself well in contention throughout the early rounds.

It was not until the fourth round that the Thai began to take control, landing a powerful combination of left and right-handed punches to the body and forcing Orona on to the ropes.

Bleeding from the mouth and nose, it was clear the challenger had little left in reserve as he survived two counts before being sent reeling for the last time.

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THE Daily Crossword by H. Kenneth Jackson

ACROSS
1 In the sack
5 News article
9 Candid
14 Arrived
15 Discovery vessel
16 Valued debris
17 Like some embroidery
18 State views
20 Cavalier base
21 Title or Torne
22 "Purple Rain" star
23 Cut off retreat
27 Baseball's 21A
28 — Bator
29 Old love
32 Hindu land
33 Beauty mark
37 "Jed" George
38 Wand
40 Cancelled
41 Shank
42 Dross
43 Just
44 Poetic before
45 Baldwin book
46 Foul de la
47 Garby beast
50 Boxing Baer
56 Spry
57 Dragon
60 Dramatic
61 O'Leary
62 Elbe leader
63 Toboggans
64 Beauty film
65 Saucy

DOWN
1 Bitter
2 Creek's cousin
3 Mideast noble
4 First state
5 abbr.
6 Duke or Earl
7 Chemical ending
8 Deranged
9 Two shillings
10 Quick
11 Growing old
12 John — Garner
13 Leg joints
18 Overacts
22 Baby buggy
25 Beach
26 Spits the beans
29 Tampa's state
30 Illumination
31 Star pilot
32 Canany
33 Painter
34 Edouard
35 Choise
36 Duncanson
38 Sea bird
39 Caravan (Saloon Trailer)
40 Lister Generator
41 Water Tanks 5 m³
42 Drilling Pipes, Bits, Tools & Casings
43 Grouting & Permeability Test Equipment

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SLOPED FILM SLAID
TODDIE LITTLE LUSIER
ANNUL DILLS PLINS
FOITIT ORANGEADE
FREEZER SEIN
WELLFIELD DROBIA
EIDEA STUDDIE VERRA
PILAWAR CULLIATED
TENDLO STOLIC
FIAT REEFERS
LEMONSODA DONAT
AGAR CRILIM TRALIA
BANG RENA KATER
SINEE OQIS AMEST

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FRIDAY'S RACES AT THE ROYAL RACING CLUB

FIRST RACE 3:30 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Salim El Jadaan	Hilali	Owner	52.5	
2- Saleem Ayed Mohammad Yosra	Owner	52.5		
3- A. Elnaem A. Wandy	R. Maen	Owner	Rasheed	49.5
4- A. El Satter Matar	Saif Saad	Owner	Yousef	48
5- Ahmad Salim	Nadir	Owner	Saad	48
6- Aly Awwad	N. Elaswad	Owner	Ahmad	48
7- Ahmad Mjally	M. Tamir	Owner	48	
8- Mohammad Tewfik	S. Hisban	Owner	48	
9- Mohammad S. Nabulsi	Salma	Owner	46.5	
10- Abdullah Ayyash	Fadia	Owner	A. Jabir	46.5
11- Dawish El Bakheet	H. Elreth	Owner	48	
12- Mowakak El Kaisy	Wihashah	Owner	52.5	

THIRD RACE 4:30 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1400 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Mohammad Kaisy	Farlah	Owner	Saad	52.5
2- Khalil Haddadin	S. Amman	Owner	Robert	52.5
3- Hamzah B. Elhadeed	Werd	Owner	Augustein	51
4- H.H. Late Sherif	Fitini	Ibrahim	Ibrahim	49.5
5- H.H. Late Sherif	Nasir Stabia	Ibrahim	Fawaz	49.5
6- Mashhour F.A. Jnaib	Nelsalt	Owner	48	
7- Aly T. El Bakheet	Mabrouk	Owner	Yousef	48
8- Audih El Kaisy	Kawakib	Owner	48	
9- Salei G. Elfaiez	El Dahook	Owner	A. Jabir	46.5

SECOND RACE 4:00 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Ahmad Salim	Elsawy	Owner	Fawaz	54
2- Raieh Aly	Minwir	Owner	Ahmad	54
3- Ahmad Mjally	El Shaleh	Owner	54	
4- Haeli Noras Elfaiez	Waheeb	Owner	Dalallah	54
5- Talal Aly Shahir	S. Telal	Owner	Sulman	52.5
6- Nabeel Ibrahim	S. Nabeel	Owner	52.5	
7- Ihab Mohammad	Arwa	Owner	52.5	
8- Mohammad A. El Kareem Amineh	S. Elkarim	Owner	51	
9- Salman Mohammad	Ghazy	Owner	48	
10- Dr. A.E. Hafeez A. Wardy S. Maen	Owner	Rasheed	52.5	
11- Mohammad Khalid Elfaiez	J. Elkastal	Owner	52.5	

FOURTH RACE 5:00 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Faisal Awad Elfaiez	Nahab	Owner	Mostafa	48
2- Mishaal Elfaiez	A. Elfaiez	Owner	Salah	48
3- Khalil Haddadin	H. Maen	Owner	Fawaz	48
4- Hamzah B. Elhadeed	J. Elkarim	Owner	48	
5- Ghalib Haddadin	S. Hamaah	Owner	Ibrahim	46.5
6- Hany El Hadeed	Arobah	Owner	Ahmad	46.5
7- Nihal B. Elhadeed	Shimah	Owner	46.5	

FIFTH RACE 5:30 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- H.H. Late Sherif	Faridh	Ibrahim	Ibrahim	55.5
2- H.H. Late Sherif	Elhmaidy	Ibrahim	Fawaz	53
3- H.H. Late Sherif	Nasir Stabia	Ibrahim	53	
4- Samy Y. Madroos	Sharar	Adnan	Dilio	53
5- Ghalib Haddadin	Rabie	Owner	Robert	53
6- Izzat Ghandour	Hallim	Saad	Saadm	48.5
7- Jamal Mohammad Elzabini Hamdany	Owner	Mostafa	47	

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4	Polmak Rotary Drilling Rig mounted on 4x4 Toyota Hilux Pick-Up	1	1984
5	Komatsu Air Compressors 100 psi, 275 CFM.	1	1983
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7	Toyota Land Cruiser Pick-Up Gasoline 4x4.	1	1983
8	Lada Station Wagon Car.	1	1984
9	Caravan (Saloon Trailer).	1	1984
10	Lister Generator.	1	1984
11	Water Tanks 5 m³.	2	1981-1984
12	Drilling Pipes, Bits, Tools & Casings.		1983-1984
13	Grouting & Permeability Test Equipment.		1984

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Tel: 625155

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Cinema OPERA

Tel: 675573

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.4135/45	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3478/83	Canadian dollars
	2.8490/510	West German marks
	3.2045/65	Dutch guilders
	2.3580/610	Swiss francs
	57.30/40	Belgian francs
	8.6500/600	French francs
	1848/1851	Italian lire
	235.95/36.10	Japanese yen
	8.3350/500	Swedish crowns
	8.2700/850	Norwegian crowns
	10.2500/650	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	323.00/323.50	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed mostly firm in moderate trading helped by the sharp advance on Wall Street overnight and its higher opening Wednesday. The renewed strength of sterling, however, stemmed the advance of major exporters, dealers said. The FTSE 100 share index at 1530 GMT was up 5.8 at 1245.3.

Government bonds ended with gains of up to 13/16 point in longer dated issues responding to the performance of sterling. Demand exhausted official supplies of the 2½ per cent index linked treasury 2001 "taplet" at 299½ while the 2½ index linked 2013 was supplied at 285½.

Gold shares and North American were firm. Debenhams was 2p off at 325 after rejecting Burton's increased final offer. The latter dropped 15p to 462. Plessey closed 14p higher at 148, on rumours of a significant stake build-up. Plessey made no immediate comment.

Dixons gained 5p to 717 and Charter Cons rose 6p to 186 both after annual results in line with expectations. Midland Bank rose 2p to 394 after higher second quarter earnings from its subsidiary Crocker National.

The possibility of cheaper home loans boosted construction issues where Costain rose 16p to 424. Burnett and Hallamshire were suspended at 20p at the company's request.

Third World needs billions of dollars for grain handling

LONDON (R) — Billions of dollars need to be invested in developing countries to improve the handling and distribution of grain, International Wheat Council (IWC) Executive Secretary Jean-Henri Parotte said Tuesday.

He was speaking at a news conference about an IWC study of grain handling and transport in 67 developing countries, which pinpointed the need for increased technical and financial aid especially from the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

Mr. Parotte described an estimated \$55 million raised for famine-hit Ethiopia, Sudan and sub-Saharan Africa at last week's Live Aid worldwide fundraising event as "a drop in the bucket" compared with the investment needed.

He told Reuters the Live Aid trans-Atlantic pop concert televised around the world was a "wonderful, short-term effort, and if governments could come up with such a response we could achieve some long-term results."

Developing countries' grain imports have increased fourfold since 1960 and totalled 88 million tonnes in the year to June 1985 as countries' food needs far outpaced domestic production.

The IWC report said many countries could not afford to buy enough grain to provide adequate diets for all their people.

Most ports, roads and railway systems in the affected countries were unable to handle grain movements on their present scale, let alone projected future increases.

The IWC decided to undertake the worldwide study a year ago in the wake of growing awareness of famine in sub-Saharan Africa.

Mr. Parotte said about 700,000 tonnes of grain currently could not be moved from African ports because of a lack of facilities.

The International Wheat Agreement, to which 90 per cent of the world's wheat importing and exporting countries belong, provides a forum for exchange of information and discussion of national policies.

It includes an inter-governmental food aid convention and during the 12 months to the end of June more than 12 million tonnes of grains, mostly wheat, were donated including 4.9 million to sub-Saharan Africa.

Canada, Nigeria may sign \$2b goods-for-oil accord very soon

LAGOS (R) — Canada and Nigeria are negotiating a barter deal worth about \$2 billion linking sales of Nigerian oil to purchases of Canadian goods, Canadian High Commissioner (Ambassador) Garrett Lambert said Tuesday.

He told Reuters a group of Canadian businessmen was in Lagos for talks on the deal, under which Canada would take about 100,000 barrels of oil a day in return for a variety of Canadian goods, mostly linked to capital projects.

Under the proposed arrangement, which would run for one year and could be renewed if both sides agreed, about \$1 billion worth of trade would flow each way. Mr. Lambert said he did not know when the deal would be signed but said there had been indications that this could happen fairly quickly.

Nigeria, hard hit by the current weakness in the price of oil, its main export, has already entered into similar countertrade deals worth more than \$2 billion in total with Brazil, France, Austria and Italy. Oil Minister Tam David-West has called them "a strategy for national survival."

Nigeria has come under fire within OPEC for its barter activities, but Dr. David-West has said there can be no objection if they do not breach the organization's rules on pricing and production.

OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) ministers agreed at informal talks in Vienna earlier this month to phase out barter deals, which have also been made by other members including Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Lambert said the oil would be sold at Nigeria's official OPEC selling price and would be consumed in Canada.

Dr. David-West has expressed concern that oil sold under existing countertrade deals has found its way onto the spot or free market where it is sold at a substantial discount to the official price.

Mr. Lambert said a final list of goods to be supplied under the deal had yet to be agreed, but added that Canada envisaged supplying equipment for use in telecommunications, transport and power-generating projects.

The deal would mean a large increase in Canadian purchases of Nigerian oil. According to central bank figures, Canada bought 7.1 million barrels from Nigeria last year and 1.5 million barrels in 1983.

EC officials hope major reforms will end row with W. Germany

BRUSSELS (Agencies) — European Community (EC) farm ministers have put aside a row with West Germany over cereal prices, hoping that wide-range reforms will solve the nagging problem for good.

After a two-day meeting, the ministers Tuesday night virtually ended five months of wrangling over plans to cut cereal prices. They empowered the Community's commission, its executive branch, to enforce a 1.8 per cent cut and keep the cereals market functioning until prices are agreed for next season.

But the ministers mollified Bonn by approving concessions which officials said were mainly aimed at compensating 600,000 West German farmers.

West German Farm Minister Ignaz Kiechle said he had not lifted his June veto on the price cut, but added he could not prevent the commission pressing ahead with its proposal.

"We are not fully satisfied but I

acknowledge the commission's efforts to comply with our desires," he said.

The price cuts were designed to shrink one of the 10-nation Community's much-criticized "food mountains" by discouraging farmers from growing surplus grain.

Mr. Kiechle said he fully supported the commission's view that a new common cereals policy was urgently needed.

Farm Commissioner Frans Andriessen, Mr. Kiechle's main opponent in the price row, proposed to open discussions by October.

Diplomats said these reforms, if agreed by the ministers, could give the commission and ministers time to calm Community farmers bitterly opposed to price cuts.

Tuesday's deal claims cereal price cuts of 1.8 per cent compared with the 1984/85 season, but Mr. Andriessen admitted their overall effect would be less than one per cent.

The commission will continue

to pay a special subsidy for bread-making wheat produced by 80 per cent of West Germany's cereal farmers, and will change the quality criteria in a way which officials say will mainly benefit West German farmers.

It also accepted a Bonn request for those farmers unable to sell their cereals stocks in one year to be paid at the previous season's prices if this is higher and it shortened the time gap between delivery of the products and the payment of the subsidy.

Mr. Kiechle's June veto, unprecedented for West Germany, had plunged the Community's Milan summit into dispute over how to reach decisions quickly.

EC-GCC talks fail

Meanwhile, unofficial talks between the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the EC on tariffs on Gulf petrochemical exports have broken down, a high-level GCC official was quoted as saying Tuesday by a Saudi newspaper.

U.S. congressional panel seeks to trim foreign aid

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — A key House of Representatives subcommittee went into secret session late Tuesday in an attempt to reduce spending on United States foreign aid below President Ronald Reagan's recommendation.

Israel and Egypt, the major recipients of U.S. aid, were the only countries that could hope to receive as much as Mr. Reagan requested for them in proposing his foreign-aid package for the year starting next October.

Earlier this week the House approved the foreign aid authorization bill providing \$12.7 billion for each of the next two years, including Mr. Reagan's request for \$3 billion in cash for Israel and \$2.1 billion for Egypt.

The foreign operations subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee then met on Tuesday evening to begin voting on the actual appropriation bill, the second part of the two-step congressional process for spending.

With the support of all the members attending, opposition Democratic representative Mr. David Obey, subcommittee chairman, agreed to close the meeting to the public on the motion of Democratic representative Mr. William Lehman.

"Time is of the essence," Mr. Lehman said in explaining his motion, adding that the panel would be able to work faster if they excluded the public.

"We have an obligation to deal with the impact this legislation has on the deficit," said Mr. Obey, in explaining before the meeting closed that he would have preferred to make a 17 per cent across-the-board cut in spending.

But, he said, by unanimous agreement of the 13-member committee, Israel and Egypt would be spared the budget-cutter's axe "for a variety of reasons."

The two countries already are to receive an extra \$2 billion in emergency aid under legislation approved by both the House and Senate, \$1.5 billion for Israel and \$500 million for Egypt.

The extra money, to be spent before October 1986, is to help the two countries overcome severe economic problems.

A House-Senate conference committee is to begin negotiations on Thursday to work out differences between the two versions of the supplemental bill.

Keeping Israel and Egypt at the full amount in the regular appropriation bill would mean the other countries would have to share an even greater portion of the reduction, said Mr. Obey, but he added that would be unreasonable.

To protect them, he said he was proposing a \$1.3 billion cut from Mr. Reagan's \$14.9 billion request, instead of the \$2.4 billion that would be required "to eliminate our share of the deficit."

Committee sees need for imported capital

Meanwhile, the U.S. government will remain dependent on foreign investors to pay for much of its spending unless the U.S. economy shows highly unusual vigour in the next five years, a congressional study said Tuesday.

The joint economic committee said in a report that, even with

fairly optimistic assumptions about economic growth and budget cutting, the United States will need to borrow \$100 billion a year from foreigners until 1990.

The United States became a net debtor nation this year, and economists estimate that about \$100 billion of imported capital will be required to help it pay for federal government deficits this year alone.

The Reagan administration estimates this year's spending deficit will be about \$213 billion.

The role of foreign borrowers would increase considerably more if the U.S. economy, which has been on an upturn for two-and-a-half years, were to go into a recession, a clear possibility, according to the report.

Preliminary government estimates show the economy as having grown by about 3.1 per cent in the second quarter, as compared with only 0.3 per cent in the first three months. By contrast, the U.S. economy last year rocked ahead by 6.8 per cent.

"If the present economic expansion is of average postwar duration, it will yield to recession in late 1986," the report said, adding: "Only if it outlasts all postwar upswings save that of the 1960s will it endure past 1987."

The report said that if the economy were only able to struggle ahead at 1.9 per cent per year between now and 1988, the budget deficit would grow to 6.5 per cent of Gross National Product (GNP) compared with the current 5.6 per cent.

If Congress fails to narrow the gap between spending and income, the report said, the deficit as a percentage of GNP could reach a punitive nine per cent.

World Bank plans significant increase in lending to China

PEKING (R) — The World Bank plans a big boost in loans to China over the next five years to help finance the country's ambitious development programme, the head of the bank's new Peking office said Wednesday.

Mr. Edwin Lim, a Chinese-speaking Filipino, told Reuters the bank had lent China \$3.1 billion from the time it took its first loan in 1981 up to the end of last month.

"That makes China one of the bank's four largest borrowers, with India, Brazil and Indonesia. The Bank will increase lending to China significantly by 1990," he said.

China has an extremely low foreign debt compared to other Third World countries and considering the size of its economy.

Foreign bankers estimate China's foreign debt at about \$3 billion, one third in commercial loans at market rates and the rest at cheaper rates from governments and international bodies such as the World Bank.

China declined to use a credit

line of \$2 billion offered in 1979 by a syndicate of 22 Japanese banks, but renewed it earlier this month for a further 10 years.

Communist Party chief Mr. Hu Yaobang said last year that China would borrow \$50 billion over the next 10 years.

Mr. Lim said he could not make an exact projection of future World Bank lending to China because it had not yet published its 1986-1990 five-year plan.

He said the World Bank office, which opens officially in October with five professionals from its Washington headquarters, showed how much progress had been made in relations between China and the bank.

He praised the steps taken by China to make its economy more responsive to market forces, linked with increasing openness to foreign investment.

China replaced Taiwan in the World Bank in 1980. Mr. Lim has been closely involved in the bank's relationship with China since then and was one of the principal authors of two major bank reports on

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, JULY 18, 1985
GENERAL TENDENCIES: An influential man will aid you greatly today if asked to help you make your life on a more solid and secure structure, so go along with his views. Be astute.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A senior member of your family has good ideas, so listen and profit from them. Avoid an extravagant woman.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Go after that secret advice from an expert that is invaluable to you and follow it. Don't lose your temper over delays.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You have a friend who wants to help you, so accept gratefully, and you can gain aims more easily. Avoid an overly talkative person.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) A bigwig gives you good ideas, so go along with them and avoid gossiping individuals who waste your time.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get a plan well-organized that can help you to gain your fondest wishes, but don't expect quick action to occur.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You have to be more tactful with a business person if you are to gain your way and get good results. Schedule activities well.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Use charm to tone down that overly-energetic partner and then organize your work very well. Take things in stride.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You have been studying advanced methods for handling your duties more efficiently and this is a good day to see if they work.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) They want to have fun at all costs, but this could get you into big trouble, so be sensible. Spend time with mate.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You could have a good deal of activity at home and particularly through your own efforts today. Think constructively.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Try to be of assistance to others in gaining their wishes and you gain their good will. Pay attention to health matters.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Don't be too lavish in spending today or you could regret it later. Find better ways of improving your possessions.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will need to early plan his, or her, life if there is going to be any success here. One who will have a pioneering quality and will be quick to seize new opportunities to advance. Spiritual training should come early in life.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, JULY 19, 1985
GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when the planetary influences hover and ricochet from one apparent condition to another and it is advisable to use consistency in going after what you desire.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You have many fine ideas and want to get them in operation constructively, but take any delays in stride.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get home conditions improved, but be patient when some kind of stress occurs. The evening is fine for entertaining.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Listen to what friends have to say, even if they resort to criticism, which can be constructive, and you profit from it.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Study into new opportunities for increasing your income and take advantage of the best of such.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You are thinking of making changes just when some course you have been working on is going well, so refrain from doing so.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Set up a plan to gain your finest aims, even though you are thinking of going off on some other tangent.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You can gain private desires if you get the assistance of bigwigs. Be nice to everyone in social affairs.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you follow through with wishes of higher-ups carefully, you can make greater progress. Show you are dependable.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A new course that is appealing should be pursued in a clever way and don't upset any good set-up.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be at harmony with a close tie and don't let some careless word uttered bother you. Get advice from a business expert.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) One of many talents will give good advice for your advancement, so follow through as suggested without making changes.

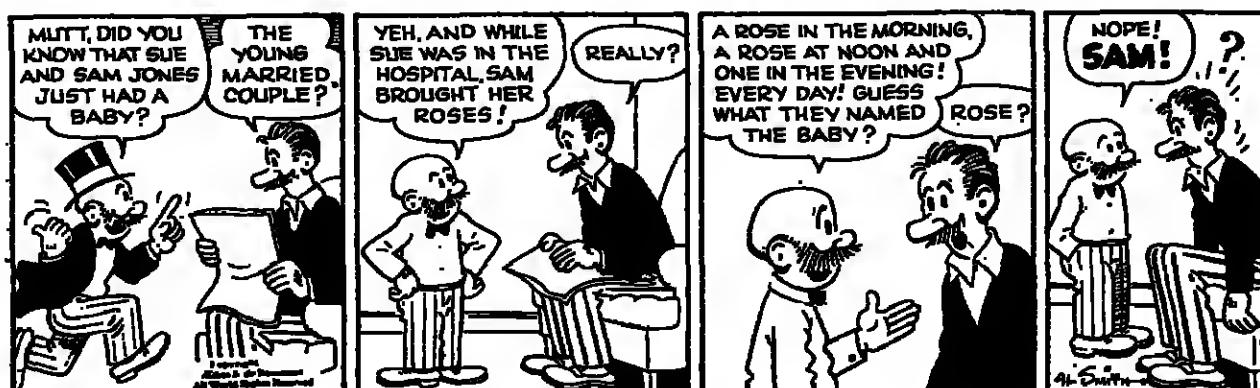
PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Add charming and artistic pieces to your surroundings and make them more functional also. Spend evening with mate.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be the executive type and have a fine logical mind, so be sure to provide as fine an education as possible. Teach early in life to be only with worthwhile persons. Give praise when deserved to raise incentive.

Peanuts



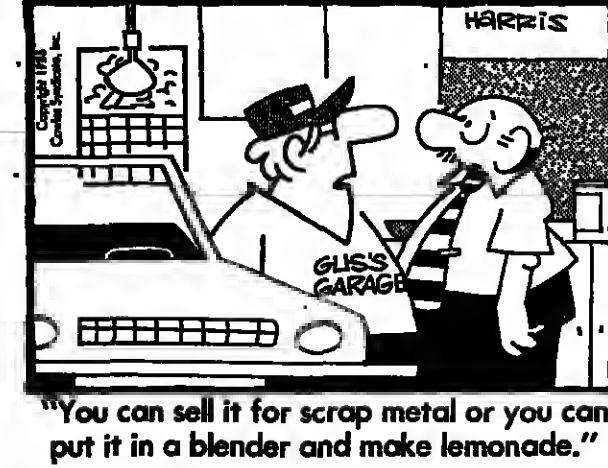
Mutt 'n' Jeff



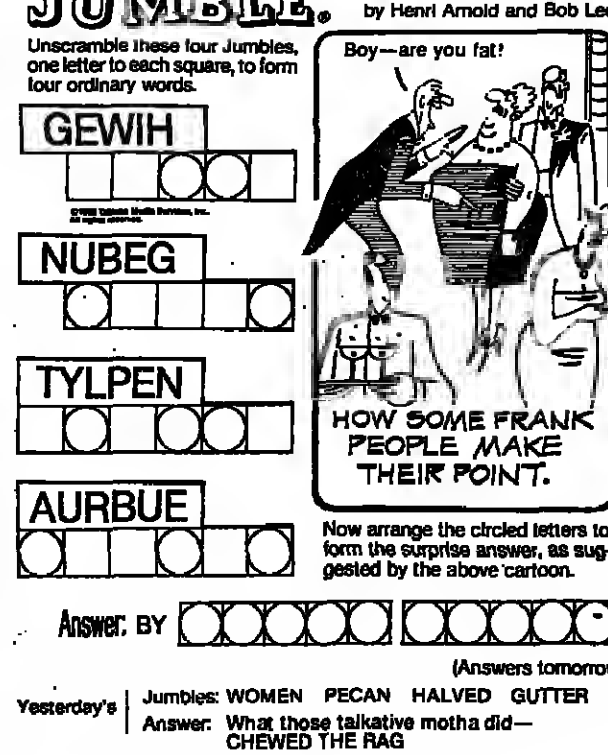
Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Reagan plans to go ahead with Chinese, Soviet talks

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan is recovering so well from cancer surgery that he expects to meet Chinese President Li Xiannian next Tuesday and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in November on schedule, his aides say.

Mr. Reagan expects to leave hospital by Monday and meet Mr. Li at the White House on Tuesday, a senior White House official who did not want to be identified said Tuesday.

He said the traditional long welcoming ceremony might be curtailed but that Mr. Reagan planned to confer fully with Mr. Li and attend a state dinner for him on Tuesday night.

The White House also made clear Mr. Reagan intended to hold his summit meeting with Mr. Gorbachev on schedule, announcing that a 10-man team would leave on Thursday to begin pre-

parations.

The Reagan-Gorbachev summit is scheduled for Nov. 19 and 20 in Geneva.

The two announcements appeared intended at least in part to provide reassurance that Mr. Reagan would remain a vigorous world leader despite nearly three hours of surgery on Saturday to remove a cancerous growth from his large intestine.

The White House Tuesday expressed disappointment with what it called Soviet entrenchment in arms control talks and said Moscow's negotiators had refused to discuss U.S. proposals.

The second round of the Geneva talks ended Tuesday with both sides still deadlocked over President Reagan's "Star Wars" anti-missile research programme.

The third round is scheduled to begin on Sept. 19, by which time U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and New Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze are expected to have met.

"During the second round, regrettably, the Soviet position has remained entrenched, with no movement in their formal proposals," White House spokesman Larry Speakes said in a statement.

He added that late in this round, "the Soviets surfaced some possible reductions" in strategic nuclear armaments.

But he said the proposals seemed designed "to favour pre-

servation of the Soviet Union's primary area of advantage."

Mr. Speakes said U.S. efforts to elicit answers to questions about the Soviet concepts had so far gone unanswered.

"In this regard, we are disappointed that the Soviet Union has been unable to deal in concrete terms and with hard numbers, even framed as overall negotiating goals."

"And while the U.S. immediately probed the Soviet concepts, the Soviets unfortunately have refused to engage in discussion of the U.S. proposals," he said.

Chief Soviet negotiator Viktor Karpov told reporters in Geneva earlier: "There has been no progress, and it's out our fault. The talks are tied to both sides. It's incumbent on the second side (the Americans) to change their position."

Air India jet recorder indicates mid-air blast

BOMBAY (R) — First replays of an Air India cockpit voice recorder indicate a mid-air blast sent the Jumbo jet plunging into the Atlantic on June 23, a top Indian scientist said Wednesday.

"We have started further analysis of the tape readings and it is clearly leading towards the conclusion that there was a mid-air explosion," the scientist told Reuters.

He said cockpit conversation on the voice recorder tape ran normally and seemed routine until just 15 seconds before the tape ended with "some sounds". The scientist did not describe the sounds.

The scientist, who asked not to be named, is a member of a team of experts trying to decode the doomed plane's voice and flight data recorders at India's main nuclear research facility, the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC).

He said the experts will carry out detailed analysis of the tape Wednesday to establish whether Air India flight 182 was blasted out of the air near Ireland, killing all 329 people aboard.

Two militant Sikh groups are reported to have claimed responsibility for the disaster.

Two "black boxes" containing the plane's recorders were retrieved last week from the Atlantic seabed after an intensive search. Aviation experts, who have not ruled out sabotage, say the recorders could reveal why the Boeing 747 crashed.

S.N. Sharma, a senior Aviation Ministry official who is part of India's official inquiry into the world's worst air disaster at sea, told reporters Tuesday U.S. and Canadian experts were present during the first replay of the tapes.

"It will take two more days and several more replays before an analysis can be made," Mr. Sharma said.

Asked by reporters if an explosion caused the disaster, Mr. Sharma said it was impossible to say at this stage and added that he could not say yet if there were any signs of panic on board before the crash.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) said experts were also studying print-outs of the flight data recorder at an Air India engineering workshop at Bombay Airport.

The flight data recorder contains at least 64 types of information from various parts of the plane that could give investigators vital clues about the aircraft's last moments.

Meanwhile, a British officer said Tuesday a new satellite search and rescue system pinpointed the location of the June 23 Air India jet crash off the Irish coast within an hour after the aircraft disappeared off radar, a British officer said Tuesday.

The satellite system also helped indirectly in the successful effort to locate the Air India jet's flight recorders since it accurately determined the crash area, said David N. Mason, a Royal Air Force search coordinator.

Kabul: Pakistan became NATO's southern wing

ISLAMABAD (R) — Afghanistan Wednesday criticised continued U.S. arms sales to Islamabad and said Pakistan had become the southern wing of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

Kabul's Communist Party daily said Washington's decision to speed up delivery of 500 Sidewinder air-to-air missiles was causing concern in all of South Asia.

"There is no doubt that Pakistan has become NATO's southern wing," the official Bakhtar News Agency quoted the Haqiqat-i-Inqilab-I-Saur as saying.

Non-aligned Pakistan has been buying F-16 fighter jets from the U.S. since 1981 to counter what it

sees as the threat from Soviet forces in Afghanistan.

The State Department announced last Thursday that Washington was speeding up delivery of the missiles for the F-16s in response to repeated Soviet and Afghan raids along Pakistan's Western border.

"It would have been much better for Islamabad's rulers to have established good relations with its neighbours instead of making use of so-called pretexts such as the 'threat to national interests' and 'the Soviet threat' to create tensions," the paper said.

A senior Foreign Ministry official in Islamabad revealed last month that Pakistan had tried but failed in the past to shoot down intruding Afghan aircraft.

U.N. women's conference delegates clash over apartheid, Palestinian issue

NAIROBI (R) — The United States and Third World delegates have clashed over references to apartheid, the Palestinian question and the women's peace movement in the first days of the United Nations Women's Conference.

The conference, which opened on Monday, is reviewing the situation of women around the world to mark the end of the U.N. decade for women. About 4,000 delegates from 150 countries are attending.

President Reagan's daughter Maureen was among several delegates who condemned apartheid during the first debate Tuesday, saying that the South African system of racial segregation had "especially severe effects on women."

Several delegates from Western countries also discussed the plight of Palestinian women in Israeli-occupied territories.

But the U.S. delegation is opposing these two topics being included in the conference's concluding document. Ms. Maureen said her delegation feared the meeting might become politicised and would strive to prevent this happening.

The conference is expected to adopt a report setting out plans for the advancement of women.

Margaret Papandreu, the wife of the Greek prime minister, said Greece condemned "the inhuman system" of apartheid and recognised the right of Palestinians to a homeland.

Suzanne Mubarak, wife of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, and New Zealand Minister for Women's Affairs, Social Welfare and Police Ann Hercus, also condemned apartheid.

Several articles in the proposed conference document deal with the plight of Palestinian women.

Iraqi delegation leader Masud Younis Abdul Razzaq said the Gulf war with Iran had "wasted human and material resources which could have been utilised to achieve further development and prosperity."

The Iranian government was trying "to take women back to the dark ages of backwardness," she charged.

An Iranian delegate wearing a black chador who did not wish to be identified told Reuters that these accusations were "outright lies."

Greenpeace explosion suspect released

WELLINGTON (R) — A French businessman sought in connection with the sabotage of the protest ship Rainbow Warrior has been freed in Australia after night-long questioning, New Zealand police said Wednesday.

Police told Reuters the man, who has not been named, was detained Tuesday by Australian authorities as he arrived from the tiny Australian territory of Norfolk Island.

He was interviewed overnight by a New Zealand detective and released Wednesday in Sydney, a spokesman said.

Australian police said the man had no role in the bombing a week ago in Auckland harbour of the Greenpeace environmental group's flagship in which a photographer was killed.

The Frenchman sailed on the charter yacht Ouvea from New Zealand to Norfolk Island, where New Zealand police questioned and then released three crew members.

Police spokesman Joe Franklin said the hunt for the saboteurs centred on the Ouvea and a rubber dinghy abandoned on an Auckland harbour beach shortly before the ship was sunk there, and a hired camper van.

Venezuela trains Salvadorean police

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Venezuela, a member of the Co-ordinator Group seeking to negotiate peace in Central America, is training Salvadorean security forces fighting leftist guerrillas, senior military officials said.

"The Venezuelans are picking up where the United States is not allowed to train," one high-ranking military official told Reuters recently. He was referring to U.S. laws prohibiting officials from working with foreign police forces.

According to Salvadorean military officials, Venezuelan police were training the Salvadorean National Guard, National Police and Treasury Police in techniques

aimed at cracking down on insurgents and criminals.

A lawyer working with an international human rights group told reporters Salvadorean guerrilla prisoners had said recently that men wearing Venezuelan uniforms and speaking with Venezuelan accents had supervised their interrogation.

Diplomats said the arrangements could undermine Venezuela's position in the peace-seeking Contadora Group, which advocates a ban on all foreign military advisers in Central America.

Two years of efforts by the group, which also includes Mexico, Colombia and Panama, have so far been fruitless.

"Venezuelan training of Salvadorean security forces is against Contadora's very principles and could place all of Contadora's neutrality in question," one Latin American diplomat close to the peace process said.

The Venezuelan ambassador in San Salvador declined to comment on the subject.

According to Salvadorean military officials, Venezuela sent the first group of trainers to work with El Salvador's national police towards the end of last year.

Government officials here said a Venezuelan company is also building army barracks with Venezuelan government aid.

Security Minister Carlos Lopez Nuila recently told Reuters that Venezuelan "technicians" have given officers courses in criminology, police investigation and police administration.

Soviets reportedly launch big naval exercise

LONDON (AP) — The Soviet Union was reported Wednesday to have launched a major naval exercise in the eastern Atlantic, and declared that its submarines and aircraft now are a match for the U.S. fleet.

The British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) in radio news bulletins cited NATO alliance officials as saying more than 40 ships, submarines and support vessels from the Soviet's northern, Baltic and Black Sea fleets have moved into the Atlantic and the North Sea.

The broadcasts also reported that the commander-in-chief of the Soviet Navy, Adm. Sergei Gorshkov, issued a statement declaring that his country's submarines now match the capacity of the U.S. fleet.

The London Daily Telegraph said Wednesday the Soviets are preparing for an anti-submarine exercise to the west of Ireland during the next few days.

The newspaper quoted senior officers at the West German Fleet Headquarters at the Baltic Port of Flensburg as saying that five Soviet submarines and about as many surface warships began leaving their Baltic bases last Friday.

It said they entered the Skagerrak, the narrow international seaway between northern Denmark and southern Sweden, before entering the North Sea to join other vessels from the Soviet's northern and Mediterranean fleets.

The Daily Telegraph added, "The Soviet aircraft carrier Kielev passed through the Mediterranean only a month ago after a two year refit at a Black Sea base."

"This ship, carrying at least 16 anti-submarine helicopters, would obviously have a key role to play in an anti-submarine exercise."

The Danish Navy Department on Tuesday reported that 21 vessels of the Soviet Baltic Fleet, including six submarines and the cruiser Grozny which carries nuclear missiles, had passed through the Danish coast.

Americans observe first nuclear blast anniversary

NEW YORK (AP) — Some came to Trinity site in the New Mexico desert to pray for peace, others to marvel at the spot where scientists detonated the first atomic bomb 40 years ago.

In Washington, some scientists who worked on the Manhattan project used the occasion to criticise U.S. President Ronald Reagan's "star wars" plans as a sign the world still does not understand the dangers unleashed at what is called Trinity site.

In San Francisco, a delegation of scientists met with the Soviet Vice Consul and aides to three U.S. representatives in an effort to halt to underground testing of nuclear weapons.

And in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, where plutonium for the first atom bomb was manufactured, retired scientists at the "Atomic City" said they preferred to think their work had stopped a war rather than triggered a deadly weapons race.

About 1,000 people visited Trinity site on Tuesday, officials of the White Sands Missile Range said. The "ground zero" site, now marked by a black lava obelisk, sits just below the centre of New

Mexico in a stretch of desert the Spanish conquistadores called "jornado del muerto" — journey of death — about 160 kilometres south of Albuquerque.

At a news conference in Washington, former Manhattan project scientist Victor Weisskopf said research and talk about deployment of Mr. Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), or "Star Wars" programme, will prod the Soviet Union to develop countermeasures and lead to new "spiralling of the arms race which we must avoid."

In San Francisco, scientists including Glenn Seaborg, co-discoverer of plutonium, and Owen Chamberlain, a 1959 Nobel Prize winner in Physics and a scientist with Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, met Tuesday with the Vice Consul of the Soviet embassy in San Francisco.

"It's a meaningful first step," said Mr. Seaborg, another Manhattan project veteran.

At Trinity site, the Rev. Layton Zimmer, pastor of St. Aidan's Episcopal parish in Albuquerque, led a group of about two dozen in a prayer for peace near the obelisk.

COLUMNS 7&8

Diana speaks out against drug taking

LONDON (R) — A campaign against hard drugs in Britain has won royal support as Diana, Princess of Wales, spoke of her fears about the country's drug problem. The princess paid a surprise visit to London's BBC television centre to see a two-hour special programme, *Drugwatch*, being recorded. "The drug problem is something which worries me very much," she said. "I hope families will watch *Drugwatch* together so that they can talk openly about the problem." Later she became the first to sign a celebrity notice-board endorsing the programme's "just say no" message. The problem was also discussed in parliament, with a Conservative member denouncing best-selling fiction writer Harold Robbins for his writing which he said glamorised drug-taking. Books such as Robbins' latest *Descent From Canaan* were making the government's fight against drug-taking in Britain more difficult, David Harris told the House of Commons. Harris said he had skinned the book in which "the tycoon hero has a fetish about women and drugs and lovely girls prepare cocaine for him aboard his private aeroplane."

Charles donates to Live Aid fund

LONDON (R) — Prince Charles, heir to the British throne, has made a personal contribution to the Live Aid fund for African famine relief, the organisers of the 16-hour televised trans-Atlantic concert have said. "His gesture just highlights the magnificent success of the global rock concert on Saturday," said a spokesman for the organisers. Buckingham Palace confirmed that the donation was made but would not disclose the figure involved. The prince and his wife Diana, Princess of Wales, attended two hours of the concert at London's Wembley Stadium. The U.S. venue for the event was Philadelphia's John Kennedy Stadium.

Death duties paid with paintings

PALMA, Majorca (R) — Relatives of the late Catalan surrealist painter Joan Miró have presented 24 oil paintings and 243 engravings to the Spanish government to meet death duties, a family spokesman said. Miró's widow, Pilar Juncosa, parted with works unofficially valued at 1.1 billion pesetas (\$67 million) in a ceremony which marked the end of an 18-month row over the level of death duties owed by Miró's family. Socialist Culture Minister Javier Solana, who attended the donation ceremony at Miró's old home in Majorca, said the valuation figure given in the Spanish press was fictitious. Miró's family became a test case in a new law introduced to keep the country's art treasures in Spain. The law allows works of art to be donated as a means of paying capital transfer taxes. "The agreement is the first of its kind and one which will enrich our cultural heritage," Solana told reporters. Joan Miró, regarded by many critics as one of the most innovative of modern painters, died aged 90 in December 1983.

Turkish soldiers escape to Greece

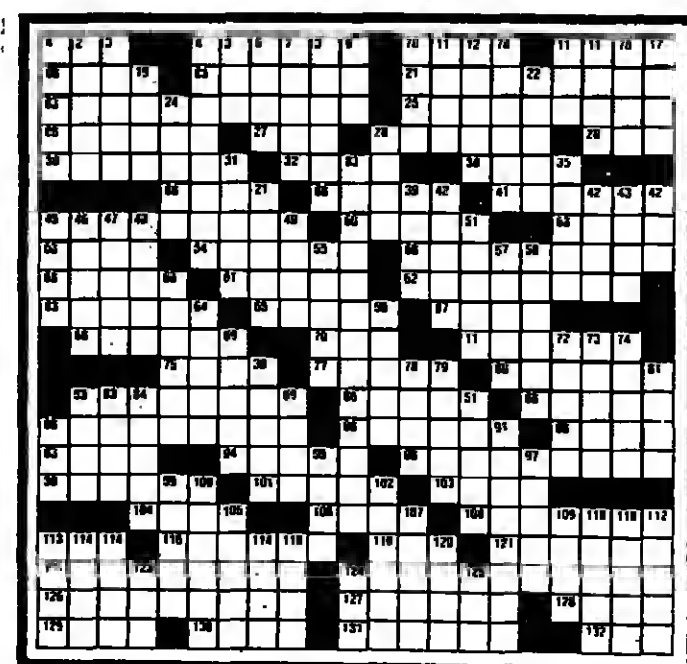
ATHENS (Agencies) — Two Turkish soldiers have asked for political asylum in Greece after swimming across an unguarded part of the Evros River on the Greek-Turkish border, the Greek National News Agency ANA has said. It said the Turks, identified as Mehmet Moursouli, 26, and Ahmet Kaidesi, 23, hitch-hiked to the eastern Greek city of Kavala and gave themselves up to police before asking for asylum. A police spokesman, who asked not to be named, said the soldiers crossed the river on Saturday night and were taken to a police station in Kavala. They were taken to Kavala police on Tuesday. They told police they fled Turkey because they were opposed to their country's regime, the spokesman said.

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Etkin

CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL
By Peter Swift

- ACROSS
1 Snake
4 Motor tender
10 Unsubstantiated
14 Tempo
16 Son of Seth
20 Have ambitions
21 Presidential
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25 Strongbox of
26 War
28 Reach
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32 Shrinky from
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34 A bird of prey
35 Avarice or
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38 Ex-senior
- DOWN
1 "Banal Boy"
2 Ash on the
3 "Whodunnit"
4 Legal wrong
5 Measured
6 "Aha" — mouse
7 Laid underwire
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9 Spheres of
10 Use a towel
11 Microgram
12 Beverage
13 Baseball
14 Liverpool poet
15 Style of old
16 Miracule site
17 Nevada city
18 NTS member
19 Fugitive
- 70 Mark in
71 Tarantula
72 Power unit
73 Holmwood
74 Midgey Mrs.
75 Pouch of
76 Language place
77 Site of ancient
78 Carfax
79 Veneration
80 Carfax
81 Fairs
82 Author Haley
83 Ministry or shag
84 Bells
85 Bells
86 Bells
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89 Bells
90 Bells
91 Fugitive

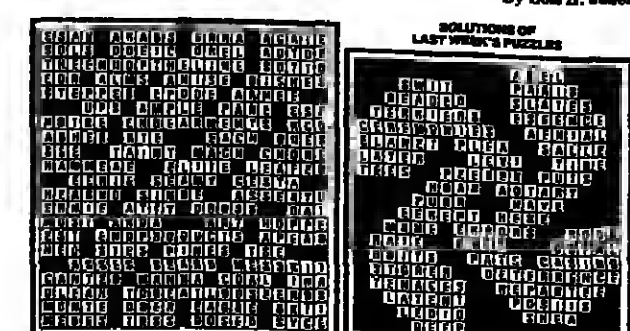


Last Week's Cryptograms

- "The way of all flesh" may be reflected daily under weight number on the backdoor scale group.
- Whodunnit is the trial which tests mortal's morale.
- Nudest told his benefactor he needed only safety bare essentials.
- When in Holland, would one call a canal a Dutch ditch?

CRYPTOGRAMS

- VACX VYXNICHY BCF PICWFE IG LG ZFCD
QIGZFXLIGAT VYAFY POFCE FTFVORGY
BGE EIGWFDY VFCNICH. —By Alvin B. Leber
- FE BAB NUTRA CUSB, OBN DFOH RU NFK,
PFM POLAR QFSV FRUTMX BAB QUBSX RPY.
OML UNSE F OQB NBSCN. —By Martha F. Gerner
- LCDS HPPS TEKH OPHACK IDTC OTMAGJ IF
JMLACH BEK IMKEH YFJ D BEJ. —By Earl Ireland
- ROLLS FURNIP KNIT WOLLS TURNIP KYFY
WELM EW WOLLS WEEM. —By Lyle H. Jones



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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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DIAMONDS CAN BE DANGEROUS

Neither vulnerable. North deals.
NORTH
♠ Q10875
♥ A10875
♦ A97
♣ K
WEST
♠ 4
♥ Q6432
♦ 8
♣ 1076542
EAST
♠ 652
♥ Void
♦ QJ10542
♣ AQ93
SOUTH
♠ AKJ97
♥ KJ9
♦ K63
♣ J8
The bidding:
North East South West
2♥ 3♦ 4NT Pass
5♥ Pass 6♥ Pass
Pass Double 6NT Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Eight of ♠.

The most critical opening lead of the recent World Team Olympiad in Seattle occurred in the match between Iceland and Australia. West's choice made a difference of five tricks for his side.

North's opening bid of two hearts showed a hand that contained four spades and five hearts. After East's overcall, South blasted into Blackwood and contracted for a spade slam when his partner showed two aces. When East made a Lighter double, it was obvious to South that a heart ruff would defeat six spades, so he opted for six no trump.

In view of his partner's Lighter

double and subsequent failure to double six no trump, West might have tried the effect of a club lead rather than a diamond. That would have netted his side the first six tricks.

After a diamond lead, declarer showed enviable technique. He won in dummy and ran his five spade tricks, shuffling a diamond from the board. He cashed the king of hearts, ran the jack and the overtook the nine with the ten. That reduced the hand to this position:

NORTH
♠ A8
♥ 9
♦ 9
♣ K
WEST
♠ Q6
♥ 9
♦ 9
♣ J10
EAST
♠ —
♥ —
♦ —
♣ A9
SOUTH
♠ —
♥ —
♦ —
♣ J8

When the table's ace of hearts was cashed, East was forced to succumb. He could not discard a diamond without promoting a long card for declarer, so he was forced to stuff the queen of clubs. Declarer discarded his low diamond, then exited with the king of clubs from dummy. East got his ace, but declarer scored the last two tricks with the king of diamonds and jack of clubs.